

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOI/PA  
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET  
FOI/PA# 1368488-1

Total Deleted Page(s) = 10

Page 44 ~ Referral/Direct;  
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X For this Page X  
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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: IMMEDIATE

Date: 07/10/1997

To: FBI Headquarters  
Albuquerque  
Phoenix  
SacramentoFrom: Los Angeles  
Santa Maria RA  
Contact: SA [redacted]

(805) 934-2444

Approved By: [redacted]

b6  
b7C

Drafted By: [redacted] ref

Case ID #: 7A-LA-208769-1 (Pending)

Title: UNSUB(S);  
GARY MARTIN DEVORE - VICTIM  
KIDNAPPING

Synopsis: Preliminary inquiry initiated to determine federal jurisdiction based on request for assistance from local agency.

Details: On 7/9/97, Lieutenant [redacted] Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office (SBSO), Santa Barbara, California, contacted the Santa Maria Resident Agency, Los Angeles Field Office, to request assistance in a matter involving the mysterious disappearance of GARY MARTIN DEVORE, who was last heard from by his wife on 6/28/97.

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DEVORE, a white male, date of birth 9/17/41, is a screen writer who was formerly married to NAT KING COLE's widow, MARIA COLE. DEVORE is currently married to WENDY B. OATES-DEVORE, white female, date of birth [redacted]. Their residence is located at [redacted] Carpinteria, California.

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On 6/23/97, DEVORE left Carpinteria, California, en route to Santa Fe, New Mexico, to visit actress MARSHA MASON, who resides at [redacted] Santa Fe, New Mexico. DEVORE arrived at MASON's residence on 6/24/97. The purpose of the visit was to finish work on a script. DEVORE made the trip alone in a 1997 Ford Explorer, Eddie Bauer model, white in color, California license 3NGH592.

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7/11/97  
JUL 11 1997  
SA [redacted]  
S. BRA  
7/11/97  
EJ

7A-LA-208769-1

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 11 1997	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

140/1

To: FBI Headquarters From: Los Angeles  
Re: 7A-LA-208769, 07/10/1997

DEVORE left Santa Fe on Friday, 6/27/97, en route back to Carpinteria, California. OATES-DEVORE says that she received a cellular telephone call from DEVORE on at or about 1:00 AM on Saturday, 6/28/97. OATES-DEVORE reports that DEVORE told her that he was in the area west of Barstow, California, he was anxious to see her, and he would be home at or about 4:00 AM that same date. OATES-DEVORE says that is the last contact she had with her husband.

OATES-DEVORE filed a missing person report with the SBSO on 6/28/97, at 7:00 PM, and immediately offered a \$10,000 reward for information concerning DEVORE's whereabouts. The reward has since been increased to \$100,000.

Lieutenant [redacted] advised that efforts to locate DEVORE and his vehicle have to date been unsuccessful. Lieutenant [redacted] said that credit card records indicate DEVORE purchased gasoline in Flagstaff, Arizona, on 6/27/97, at or about 6:00 PM; and at Fenner, California, on 6/27/97, at 10:10 PM. Lieutenant [redacted] added that DEVORE can be seen on a video tape from a security camera installed at the gas station in Flagstaff. The SBSO has verified that a call had been made on DEVORE's cellular telephone from the Barstow, California, area at 12:30 AM on 6/28/97. Further review of cellular telephone records indicate that the DEVORE's cellular phone was in service ("on") in the area of Highway 14 and Highway 58 near Mojave, California, at 1:20 AM on 6/28/97. Search efforts by law enforcement authorities on land and in the air following logical routes between Barstow and Carpinteria have been fruitless in locating any indication of the whereabouts of DEVORE or his vehicle. It has also been reported to the SBSO that DEVORE carried with him a .38 caliber handgun, specific reason unknown except for general personal protection.

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The SBSO has learned that DEVORE was having financial problems, particularly involving a dispute with the Internal Revenue Service concerning the NAT KING COLE estate. There has also been speculation in the media and from other parties that OATES-DEVORE or DEVORE's [redacted] could be responsible for the possible murder of DEVORE. The only possible motives the SBSO is aware of to support such speculation is that DEVORE has a \$1.5 million retirement fund with the SCREEN ACTORS GUILD that OATES-DEVORE could lay claim to upon DEVORE's death, and that [redacted] could want DEVORE murdered relative to the Internal Revenue Service dispute.

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To: FBI Headquarters From: Los Angeles  
Re: 7A-LA-208769, 07/10/1997

The SBSO also advises that OATES-DEVORE had a TYSON-HOLYFIELD party on 6/28/97 at her residence. She did not appear to certain witnesses to be grieving in any way, she talked about how she was going to spend DEVORE's money, and she was "coming on" to certain men in attendance.

Lieutenant [redacted] said that this matter has received national media coverage, particularly by the celebrity oriented tabloid television programs. Lieutenant [redacted] is hoping that coverage on the America's Most Wanted television program to be aired Saturday, 7/12/97, will result in some much needed information of value to solve this case.

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Lieutenant [redacted] expressed concern about dealing with the high level of media attention being given to this matter, as well as the logistical problems involved in conducting an investigation with a multiple state scope. That, as well as possible federal jurisdiction, is the reason for his request to the FBI for assistance.

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To date, there is no ransom note involved or any other indication that DEVORE is being held for ransom; however, because of foul play being presumed, there being confusing fact patterns, the matter having an interstate nature, and the fact that additional investigation could result in the reasonable indication of federal criminal jurisdiction, it is necessary to institute a preliminary inquiry under the Federal Kidnapping Statute.

DEVORE is described as follows:

Descriptive Data:

Main Victim

Name -

Last: DEVORE

First: GARY

Middle: MARTIN

DDN:

Race: W

Sex: M

Height: 5'11"

Weight: 185

DOB: 09/17/1941

DLN: California H0233047

SOC: 565-52-5747

Facial: Graying full beard

Other: Deformed, crooked finger  
on right hand

To: FBI Headquarters From: Los Angeles  
Re: 7A-LA-208769, 07/10/1997

Criminal record: None

Investigation at Los Angeles will continue with contact being made with appropriate authorities at SBSO to initiate and proceed as determined appropriate with logical preliminary investigation of the GARY MARTIN DEVORE matter in order to make an informed judgment as to whether a kidnapping investigation or any other matter within federal jurisdiction is warranted. Investigation, if applicable, to include interviews of knowledgeable police officials, family members, and other witnesses, possible setting of auxiliary office investigative leads, crime scene searches, Laboratory Division assistance, and other appropriate investigative techniques.

(12/31/1995)

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE

Date: 07/14/1997

To: LOS ANGELES

Attn: [REDACTED]  
SANTA BARBARA RA

From: Savannah ITC

Investigative Information Services Center (IISC)  
Contact: [REDACTED] 912-944-0824b6  
b7C

Approved By: [REDACTED]

Drafted By: [REDACTED] Jrd

Case ID #: 7A-LA-208769 (Pending)

Title: GARY MARTIN DEVORE  
REQUEST 99492

Synopsis: To report results of request submitted to Savannah ITC.

Details: IISC DATABASE PRINTOUTS HAVE BEEN SENT TO THE REQUESTER AND WILL BE MAINTAINED AS PERMANENT FILE MATERIAL IN THE OO CASE FILE.

Two copies of a reply form are being submitted with database printouts. It is requested that you record the accomplishments of this request on these forms, return one copy to the SITC, and maintain one copy as a serial in your case file.

Results of inquiries are set forth below.

Query of SSAN 565-52-5747 revealed most recent credit activity occurred on 6/97 at [REDACTED] Carpenteria CA 93014.  
[REDACTED] is using this SSAN.b6  
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Query of SSAN 566-52-5747 revealed most recent credit activity occurred from 10/94 to 6/97 at [REDACTED] Carpenteria CA 93013, from 11/88 to 2/97 at 17547 Ventura Blvd., STE 206, Encino CA 91316 and on 10/96 at 123 Explorer Way, Santa Barbara CA 93105.

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Driver license and address update located the following addresses for Gary Martin Devore.

[REDACTED] Carpenteria CA 93013.

House Bracz RD S, Tyringham MA 01264.

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Bankruptcies, Liens, Judgments and Notice of Default located for Gary Devore, see printouts.

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 1997	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

7A-LA-208769-2



To: LOS ANGELES From: Savannah ITC  
Re: 7A-LA-208769, 07/14/1997

Corporate Record for the state of California located  
Back Roads Productions, Inc of which Gary Devore is the  
President.

All other searches were negative.

LEAD (s):

Set Lead 1:

LOS ANGELES

AT SANTA BARBARA RA

Complete and return Reply Form to Savannah ITC.

THIS IS PERMANENT FILE MATERIAL  
AND IS TO BE MAINTAINED IN  
THE OO CASE FILE.

♦♦



JUL-14-1997 12:22 FROM Savannah Info Center

TO

18059664625

P.07

FBI - SAVANNAH PUBLIC SOURCE INFORMATION GROUP

\*\*\*\*\* Dept: TRAILS / Queued by: SUPERVISOR \*\*\*\*\*

DATE:07-11-1997 TIME:20:29:44 SUBJECT ID:TRACE

TRCE 565525747

TRANS UNION TRACE REPORT

QHO2870232

\* SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER TRACE \*

\*\*HAWK-ALERT\*\*SEE END RPT

NAME/SPOUSE

ADDRESS

15 SC

07/11/97 19:24CT

565-52-5747

SSN OWNER  
ADDR RPT DATE

1. DEVORE, GARY

750 POBOX, CARPENTERIA CA. 93014

SUBJECT  
06/97

\*\*\*HAWK-ALERT: CLEAR FOR ALL SEARCHES PERFORMED\*\*\*

2.

PARADISE CA. 95969

SUBJECT  
08/93  
07/89

PARADISE CA., 8540 95969

ANAHEIM CA. 92802

\*\*\*HAWK-ALERT: CLEAR FOR ALL SEARCHES PERFORMED\*\*\*

\*\*END OF NETWORK TRACE\*\*

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\*\*\* END OF REPORT ID: 07-11-1997/20:29:44 (ORN: 11) [B-0/F-0/P-0/O-0] \*\*\*

JUL-14-1997 12:23 FROM Savannah Info Center

TO

18059664625

P.08

FBI - SAVANNAH PUBLIC SOURCE INFORMATION GROUP

\*\*\*\*\* Dept: TRAILS / Queued by: SUPERVISOR \*\*\*\*\*

DATE: 07-11-1997 TIME: 20:31:40 SUBJECT ID: SOCIAL SEARCH

9-565525747, V-06/042/6.30

PAGE 1 DATE 7-11-97 TIME 19:29:17 PCA08 V601

SS: [REDACTED]

565-52-5747

YOB: 1922

PARADISE CA 95969-2943

RPTD: 9-89 TO 2-96

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[REDACTED]  
END -- EXPERIAN SOCIAL SEARCH

\*\*\* END OF REPORT ID: 07-11-1997/20:31:40 (ORN: 18) [B-0/F-0/P-0/O-0] \*\*\*

JUL-14-1997 12:23 FROM Savannah Info Center

TO

18059664625

P.09

FBI - SAVANNAH PUBLIC SOURCE INFORMATION GROUP

\*\*\*\*\* Dept: TRAILS / Queued by: SUPERVISOR \*\*\*\*\*

DATE:07-11-1997 TIME:20:27:49 SUBJECT ID:DTEC

DTEC-565-52-5747.

SSN ISSUED -56 STATE ISSUED-CA

M1 OF 1 NM-[REDACTED] CA-[REDACTED] PARADISE, CA, 95969, 07/89  
FA-[REDACTED], ANAHEIM, CA, 92802  
SS-565-52-5747 &

b6  
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END OF REPORT EQUIFAX AND AFFILIATES - 07/11/97

\*\*\* END OF REPORT ID: 07-11-1997/20:27:49 (ORN: 4) [B-0/F-0/P-0/O-0] \*\*\*

## FBI - SAVANNAH PUBLIC SOURCE INFORMATION GROUP

\*\*\*\*\* Dept: TRAILS / Queued by: SUPERVISOR \*\*\*\*\*

DATE:07-11-1997 TIME:21:33:29 SUBJECT ID:SOCIAL SEARCH

9-566525747,V-06/042/6.30

PAGE 1 DATE 7-11-97 TIME 20:31:05 PCA16 V301

SS: [REDACTED]  
566-52-5747  
YOB: 1955[REDACTED]  
DALLAS TX 75245-0088  
RPTD: 6-96 TO 6-97[REDACTED]  
OVERLAND PARK KS 66210-2420  
RPTD: 5-97[REDACTED]  
LAREDO TX 78045-7948  
RPTD: 11-93 TO 4-97b6  
b7C[REDACTED]  
MISSION TX 78573-0149  
RPTD: 11-96 TO 4-97[REDACTED]  
OVERLAND PARK KS 66212-4221  
RPTD: 3-97 TO 4-97[REDACTED]  
SHAWNEE MISSION KS 66212-4244  
RPTD: 9-95 TO 3-97[REDACTED]  
78045-7948  
RPTD: 7-96[REDACTED]  
DALLAS TX 75245  
RPTD: 10-94 TO 11-95b6  
b7C[REDACTED]  
OVERLAND PARK KS 66210-1534  
RPTD: 8-95[REDACTED]  
LIMA OH 45805-3437  
RPTD: 7-94 TO 2-95[REDACTED]  
LAREDO TX 78041  
RPTD: 4-97

+++++ MORE

BSH9 IQS 3097885 9-566525747;V-06/042/6.30,

JUL-14-1997 12:24 FROM Savannah Info Center

TO

18059664625

P.13

FBI - SAVANNAH PUBLIC SOURCE INFORMATION GROUP

\*\*\*\*\* Dept: TRAILS / Queued by: SUPERVISOR \*\*\*\*\*

DATE:07-11-1997 TIME:21:30:58 SUBJECT ID:DTEC

DTEC-566-52-5747.

SSN ISSUED -55 STATE ISSUED-CA

M1 OF 1 NM-DEVORE, GARY, M CA-17547, VENTURA, BLVD STE 206, ENCINO, CA, 91316, 03/89  
FA-606, WILSHIRE N 304,, SANTA MONICA, CA, 90401, 03/89  
SS-566-52-5747 &

END OF REPORT EQUIFAX AND AFFILIATES - 07/11/97

\*\*\* END OF REPORT ID: 07-11-1997/21:30:58 (ORN: 22) [B-0/F-0/P-0/O-0] \*\*\*

PAGE 2 DATE 7-11-97 TIME 20:31:05 PCA16 V301

GARY M DEVORE

SS: 566-52-5747

YOB: 1941

CARPINTERIA CA 93013-1117  
RPTD: 10-94 TO 6-97b6  
b7C17547 VENTURA BLVD STE 206  
ENCINO CA 91316-3854  
RPTD: 11-88 TO 2-97123 EXPLORER WAY  
SANTA BARBARA CA 93105  
RPTD: 10-961892 KIMBERLY LN  
LOS ANGELES CA 90049-2221  
RPTD: 8-93

GARY DEVORE

END -- EXPERIAN SOCIAL SEARCH

\*\*\* END OF REPORT ID: 07-11-1997/21:33:29 (ORN: 24) [B-0/F-2/P-2/O-0] \*\*\*

JUL-14-1997 12:24 FROM Savannah Info Center

TO

18059664625

P.12

FBI SAVANNAH PUBLIC SOURCE INFORMATION GROUP

\*\*\*\*\* Dept: TRAILS / Queued by: SUPERVISOR \*\*\*\*\*

DATE: 07-11-1997 TIME: 21:32:13 SUBJECT ID: TRACE

TRCE 566525747

TRANS UNION TRACE REPORT

QHO2870232

\* SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER TRACE \*

\*\*HAWK-ALERT\*\*SEE END RPT

NAME/SPOUSE

ADDRESS

15 SC

07/11/97 20:27CT

566-52-5747

SSN OWNER  
ADDR RPT DATE

1. DEVORE, GARY M

17547 VENTURA BL, ENCINO CA., 206 91316

[REDACTED], CARPINTERIA CA. 93013

606 WILSHIRE, SANTA MONICA CA., 304 90401

SUBJECT

09/94

03/94

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\*\*\*HAWK-ALERT: CLEAR FOR ALL SEARCHES PERFORMED\*\*\*

\*\*END OF NETWORK TRACE\*\*

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GO

\*\*\* END OF REPORT ID: 07-11-1997/21:32:13 (ORN: 23) [B-0/F-0/P-0/O-0] \*\*\*



ML0120094.DQ.DCFBIWAX4.CA.TXT NAM/DEVORE, GARY MARTIN.DOB/091741.SEX/M

ML0120094

DCFBIWAX4

MESSAGE AT 0512 ON 7/14/97 ACCEPTED

DR.CADLN0000

02:12 07/14/97 01517

02:12 07/14/97 00014 DCFBIWAX4

TXT

MATCHED ON: \*L/N\*F/N\* M1\* BD

NAME/DEVORE GARY MARTIN

ADDR/ [REDACTED]. CARPINTERIA, CA.

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SEX/M. DOB/091741. HGT/600. WGT/184. HA1/BRO. EYE/BRO.

OLN/H0233049. EXP 09/17/97

RSTR:NONE

STATUS:VALID

RBM 2\*

END

CA Bankruptcies, Liens, Judgments & Notice of Default  
Data From: 00/00/00 - 00/00/00

Date: 7/11/97

Time: 6:17 PM

Reference: XX

Requestor: XXX

Search Criteria: DEVORE GARY M

Item Number: 1  
Filing Number: 9170856  
Document Type: BANKRUPTCY CHAPTER 7 - VOLUNTARY  
Filing Date: 04/05/91  
Debtor: DEVORE, GARY  
1892 KIMBERLY LN, LOS ANGELES, CA 90049  
Court/County: LOS ANGELES BK, LOS ANGELES, CA  
Assets: \$684,613  
Liability: \$2,226,647

Item Number: 2  
Filing Number: 9170856  
Document Type: BANKRUPTCY CHAPTER 7 - VOLUNTARY  
Filing Date: 04/05/91  
Debtor: DEVORE, GARY  
1892 KIMBERLY LN, LOS ANGELES, CA 90049  
Court/County: LOS ANGELES BK, LOS ANGELES, CA  
Assets: \$684,613  
Liability: \$2,226,647

Item Number: 3  
Filing Number: 951254999  
Document Type: STATE TAX  
Filing Date: 08/01/95  
Amount: \$52,806  
Debtor: DEVORE, GARY M, 566-52-5747  
17547 VENTURA BV 206, ENCINO, CA 91316  
Court/County: LOS ANGELES REC, LOS ANGELES, CA  
Certificate: 95200004352  
Tax Authority: FRANCHISE TAX BOARD  
Release Number: 961064705  
Release Date: 07/05/96

Item Number: 4  
Filing Number: 95119920  
Document Type: COUNTY TAX  
Filing Date: 01/25/95  
Amount: \$875  
Debtor: DEVORE, GARY M  
520 S BARRINGTON 101 AV. LOS ANGELES, CA 90049  
Additional Debtor: DEVORE, SANDRA L  
Court/County: LOS ANGELES REC, LOS ANGELES, CA  
Certificate: 95119920

End of search.

1ST DOCUMENT of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

\*\*\* THIS DATA IS FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY. CERTIFICATION CAN ONLY BE OBTAINED THROUGH THE OFFICE OF THE CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE. \*\*\*

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE, CORPORATE RECORDS

NAME: BACK ROADS PRODUCTIONS, INC.

TYPE OF CORPORATION: ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION (DOMESTIC)

CORPORATE STATUS: ACTIVE

DATE OF INCORPORATION/QUALIFICATION: 04/14/1978

MAILING ADDRESS: 17547 VENTURA BLVD #206  
ENCINO, CA 91316

REGISTERED AGENT:

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REGISTERED OFFICE: 606 WILSHIRE BLVD #304  
SANTA MONICA, CA 90401

PRESIDENT: GARY DEVORE  
17547 VENTURA BLVD #206  
ENCINO, CA 91316

STATEMENT OF OFFICERS FILE NUMBER: 362689

STATEMENT OF OFFICERS FILE DATE: 08/16/93

TAX-BASIS: STOCK

CORPORATE NUMBER: 843945

CALL LEXIS DOCUMENT SERVICES FOR ALL YOUR CORPORATE NEEDS. 800-634-9739

7A-LA-208769

RMC:rmc

*PLM*  
( The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent (SA) [REDACTED] on 7/15/97:

Based upon information provided to AMERICA'S MOST WANTED (AMW), on 7/13/97, by [REDACTED] San Pedro, California, [REDACTED] work telephone [REDACTED] the following investigation was conducted regarding the disappearance of GARY MARTIN DEVORE:

The Interstate 15 (I-15) off-ramp described by [REDACTED] was determined to be Hodge Road which is located in the unincorporated area of the Mojave Desert, San Bernardino County, south of Barstow, California and 17 miles north of Victorville, California.

Bureau Agents conducted a search by vehicle and on foot of the area west of I-15. The paved portion of Hodge Road ends approximately one half mile west of I-15 and several heavily traveled dirt roads and desert trails are located in the area described by [REDACTED]

The dirt roads and accessible desert trails were searched with negative results. Bureau Agents also walked the area where [REDACTED] had observed a white Ford Explorer on 6/29/97. At the time of the search a prevailing breeze was coming from the west/southwest and no unusual odor was detected during the foot search.

With the assistance of the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department (SBSD), Aviation Division, an aerial search was conducted by helicopter of the desert area west of I-15 and Hodge Road with negative results.

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AIRTEL

To : Director, FBI

From : *TEM* SAC, LOS ANGELESSubject : UNKNOWN SUBJECT;  
GARY MARTIN DEVORE - VICTIM;  
KIDNAPINGKidnap Incident: Date: 6/28/97  
Time: 1:00 A.M.Location: Highway 14 and Highway 58  
near Mojave, California  
(specify home, school, office, etc.)Primary Motive (select one):  
 Ransom  
 Narcotics  
 Infant/Child Replacement  
 Domestic (spouse/paramour, etc.)  
 Furtherance of Escape Robbery  
 Sexual Assault  
 Unknown  
 OtherNCIC entry:  FBI  PoliceVICAP Report (FD-676) Submitted:  Yes  NoSolution By:  FBI  Police  JointRansom Demand:  Yes  No  
Paid:  Yes  NoAmount Paid: \_\_\_\_\_  
Amount Recovered: \_\_\_\_\_1. DEVORE  
(Last Name)

GARY

MARTIN

Race: W Sex: M  
Sexual Assault:  Injured: (First Name)  
DOB: 9/17/41  
Killed: 

(Middle Name)

Taken Interstate:   
Located: 2. \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last Name)

(First Name)

(Middle Name)

Race: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sexual Assault:  Injured: DOB: \_\_\_\_\_  
Killed: Taken Interstate:   
Located: 3. \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last Name)

(First Name)

(Middle Name)

Race: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sexual Assault:  Injured: DOB: \_\_\_\_\_  
Killed: Taken Interstate:   
Located: 

NOTR: If subject's name is unknown, enter as UNSUR with descriptive data available for each subject.

1. (Unknown)

(Last Name)

(First Name)

(Middle Name)

Race: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_  
DOB: \_\_\_\_\_Prosecution:  Federal  State2. \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last Name)

(First Name)

(Middle Name)

Race: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_  
DOB: \_\_\_\_\_Prosecution:  Federal  State3. \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last Name)

(First Name)

(Middle Name)

Race: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_  
DOB: \_\_\_\_\_Prosecution:  Federal  StateDATE 7/24/97

KIDNAPING OFFENSE REPORT

ATTENTION:  
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION,  
VIOLENT CRIMES UNITInitial 

Supplemental \_\_\_\_\_

Closing:  Ransom Hoax No Abduction Prosecution OtherDate reported to your office: 7/9/97Ransom Demand:  Yes  NoPaid:  Yes  No

Amount Paid: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Recovered: \_\_\_\_\_

7A-LA-208769-4  
SEARCHED

INDEXED

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## INSTRUCTIONS:

An initial FD-705 must be submitted by OO within 21 calendar days after the initial report of a kidnaping is received. The submission of an FD-705 is required on all kidnaping cases opened, to include preliminary inquiries, and cases which are opened and later determined to lack the elements of kidnaping as defined by state or federal statute.

A supplemental FD-705 must be completed and submitted within 21 calendar days after one or more of the following developments occur:

1. Ransom demand
2. Subject(s) identified
3. Victim(s) located
4. Case closed.

This form is to be used in addition to the regular reporting procedures set forth in Section 7, Manual of Investigative Operations and Guidelines. It will be used to collect and tabulate pertinent statistical data regarding kidnaping matters. To ensure accuracy, please provide all data possible by filling in appropriate blanks and checking all appropriate boxes.

### Brief Synopsis:

On June 23, 1997, GARY MARTIN DEVORE left Carpinteria, California, en route to Santa Fe, New Mexico, to visit actress [REDACTED] who resides at [REDACTED] Santa Fe, New Mexico. DEVORE arrived at [REDACTED] residence on June 24, 1997. On June 27, 1997, DEVORE departed Santa Fe, en route back to Carpinteria, California. The last known contact with DEVORE was through a cellular telephone conversation between DEVORE and his wife, WENDY OATES-DEVORE at approximately 1:00 a.m., on June 28, 1997. OATES-DEVORE reported that DEVORE informed her that he planned to arrive at their home at approximately 4:00 a.m., on June 28, 1997. DEVORE told OATES-DEVORE that he was west of Barstow, California, during that conversation. The cellular telephone records indicate that DEVORE's last known location was near the intersection of Highway 14, and Highway 58 at Mojave, California, on June 28, 1997, at 1:20 a.m.

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Search efforts by law enforcement authorities on land and in the air have been negative. DEVORE and the vehicle he was driving, a 1997 Ford Explorer, have not been found. There has been no ransom demand note, nor has there been any evidence to indicate what happened to DEVORE since his disappearance.

03020W

03020E

03020E

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

Precedence: ROUTINE

Date: 07/31/1997

To: Los Angeles

Attn: SA [redacted]  
Santa Barbara RAb6  
b7C

From: Savannah ITC

Investigative Information Services Center (IISC)  
Contact: [redacted] 912-944-0824

Approved By: [redacted]

Drafted By: [redacted]; kjl

Case ID #: 7A-LA-208769 (Pending)

Title: [redacted]

Synopsis: To report results of request submitted to Savannah ITC.

Enclosures: IISC database printouts are maintained in the OO case file.

Details: IISC DATABASE PRINTOUTS HAVE BEEN SENT TO THE REQUESTER AND WILL BE MAINTAINED AS PERMANENT FILE MATERIAL IN THE OO CASE FILE.

Two copies of a reply form are being submitted with database printouts. It is requested that you record the accomplishments of this request on these forms, return one copy to the SITC, and maintain one copy as a serial in your case file.

Results of inquiries are set forth below.

SSAN [redacted] was issued during 1977 for the state of IL. [redacted] was listed as user for credit purposes. The most current credit activity was posted to [redacted] San Francisco, CA, and [redacted] San Francisco; however, no residential listing could be confirmed.

Possible relative [redacted] is listed as a resident at [redacted] Scotch Plains, NJ, telephone [redacted]. This address was posted on subject's credit report.

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No other identifiable information was located.

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
7A-LA-208769-5	
AUG 1997	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

**CASE FILE COPY**

To: Los Angeles From: Savannah ITC  
Re: 7A-LA-208769, 07/31/1997

LEAD (s):

Set Lead 1:

LOS ANGELES

AT SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA

Complete and return Reply Form to Savannah ITC.

THIS IS PERMANENT FILE MATERIAL  
AND IS TO BE MAINTAINED IN  
THE OO CASE FILE.

♦♦



\*\*\*\*\* EQUIFAX DTEC \*\*\*\*\*  
\* FBI - SAVANNAH, PUBLIC SOURCE INFORMATION GROUP \*  
\*  
\*\*\*\*\* Dept: TRAILS / Queued by: SUPERVISOR \*\*\*\*\*

DATE:07-30-1997 TIME:16:13:22 SUBJECT ID:DTEC

DTEC-[REDACTED]

SSN ISSUED -77 STATE ISSUED-IL

b6  
b7C

M1 OF 1 NM-[REDACTED] CA-[REDACTED] SAN FRANCISCO, CA, 94124, 02/96  
FA-[REDACTED] SOMERSET, NJ, 08875, 10/95  
SS-[REDACTED] &

END OF REPORT EQUIFAX AND AFFILIATES - 07/30/97

\*\*\* END OF REPORT ID: 07-30-1997/16:13:22 (ORN: 1) [B-0/F-0/P-0/O-0] \*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\* TRANS UNION TRACE \*\*\*\*\*  
\* FBI - SAVANNAH PUBLIC SOURCE INFORMATION GROUP \*  
\*  
\*\*\*\*\* Dept: TRAILS / Queued by: SUPERVISOR \*\*\*\*\*

DATE:07-30-1997 TIME:16:15:03 SUBJECT ID:TRACE

TRCE [REDACTED]

TRANS UNION TRACE REPORT

QHO2870232

\* SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER TRACE \*  
\*\*HAWK-ALERT\*\*SEE END RPT

NAME/SPOUSE

ADDRESS

15 SC

07/30/97 15:09CT

b6  
b7C

SSN OWNER  
ADDR RPT DATE

1.

[REDACTED] SOMERSET NJ. 08875

SUBJECT

09/95

[REDACTED] SCOTCH PLAINS NJ. 07076

08/95

[REDACTED] SOMERSET NJ. 08873

\*\*\*HAWK-ALERT: CLEAR FOR ALL SEARCHES PERFORMED\*\*\*

\*\*END OF NETWORK TRACE\*\*

COPYRIGHT 1993, TRANS UNION CORPORATION

GO

\*\*\* END OF REPORT ID: 07-30-1997/16:15:03 (ORN: 5) [B-0/E-0/P-0/O-0] \*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\* TRW SOCIAL SEARCH \*\*\*\*\*  
\* FBI - SAVANNAH PUBLIC SOURCE INFORMATION GROUP \*  
\*  
\*\*\*\*\* Dept: TRAILS / Queued by: SUPERVISOR \*\*\*\*\*

DATE: 07-30-1997 TIME: 16:16:39 SUBJECT ID: SOCIAL SEARCH

9- [REDACTED] V-06/042/6.30

PAGE: 1 DATE 7-30-97 TIME 15:13:15 PCA76 V101

[REDACTED]  
SS:  
YOB [REDACTED]

SCOTCH PLAINS NJ 07076-2048  
RPTD: 1-97

[REDACTED]  
SOMERSET NJ 08875-6101  
RPTD: UNK TO 12-95

[REDACTED]  
SOMERSET NJ 08873-4122  
RPTD: 11-90 TO 10-95

[REDACTED]  
SAN FRANCISCO CA 94188-2251  
RPTD: 6-97 TO 7-97

[REDACTED]  
SAN FRANCISCO CA 94110-2713  
RPTD: 6-97

[REDACTED]  
ROXBURY MA 02119-2027  
RPTD: 9-95

[REDACTED]  
END -- EXPERIAN SOCIAL SEARCH

\*\*\* END OF REPORT ID: 07-30-1997/16:16:39 (ORN: 9) [B-0/F-0/P-4/O-0] \*\*\*

b6  
b7C

TIME: 15:14:49 METRONET ON-LINE INFORMATION SYSTEM DATE: 07/30/97  
----- ADDRESS ----- VER : 4.2  
OPTION : A (E) DA (N) BRS (A) DDR (P) HN (Z) IP (C) ITY (S) STATE (U) S (K) CKPT  
(M) ENU (H) ELP (F) WD (B) ACK (W) METRO AREA (X) CLEAR  
SELECTION : FILE : R (R) ESIDENTIAL (B) USINESS

NAME :  FIRST NAME (Y/N) : N STREET NAME (Y/N) : N  
HOUSE# :  STREET:   
CITY : SAN FRANCISCO ST : CA ZIP CODE: PHONE #: ( ) -

b6  
b7c

RETURNED NAME/ADDRESS

NEAREST HOUSE # FOUND

SAN FRANCISCO CA 94132  
(000) 000 - 0000

*No match*

GENDER : UNKNOWN LENGTH OF RES : 00  
MEDIAN INCOME : 0074.4K HOME OWNER PROB : 101  
WEALTH RATING : B HOME VALUE : 0500.0K  
DATE OF BIRTH : HOME VALUE INDEX: 000  
DWELLING TYPE : UNKNOWN

MET100.ASX | VT102 | FDX | 9600 E71 | LOG CLOSED | PRINT OFF | ON-LINE

*6/97 credit activity*

TIME: 15:13:18 METRONET ON-LINE INFORMATION SYSTEM DATE: 07/30/97  
----- ADDRESS ----- VER : 4.2  
OPTION : A (E)DA (N)BRS (A)DDR (P)HN (Z)IP (C)ITY (S)TATE (U)S (K)CKPT  
(M)ENU (H)ELP (F)WD (B)ACK (W)METRO AREA (X)CLEAR  
SELECTION : FILE : R (R)ESIDENTIAL (B)USINESS

NAME :  FIRST NAME (Y/N): N STREET NAME (Y/N): N  
HOUSE# :  STREET:   
CITY : SCOTCH PLAINS ST : NJ ZIP CODE: PHONE #: ( ) -

RETURNED NAME/ADDRESS  
  
SCOTCH PLAINS NJ 07076

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GENDER : MALE LENGTH OF RES : 05  
MEDIAN INCOME : 0088.9K HOME OWNER PROB : 101  
WEALTH RATING : B HOME VALUE : 0205.7K  
DATE OF BIRTH : 00/53 HOME VALUE INDEX: 127  
DWELLING TYPE : SINGLE

MET100.ASX | VT102 | FDX | 9600 E71 | LOG CLOSED | PRINT OFF | ON-LINE

*Possible Relative*

**REPLY FORM - INVESTIGATIVE INFORMATION SERVICES**

To help us better serve your investigative needs, please complete and return to:

FBI, Savannah Information Technology Center  
220 East Bryan St., Savannah, GA 31401 (Federal Express)  
P. O. Box 336, Savannah, Georgia 31402-0336 (U. S. Post Office)

SAVANNAH ITC RECORD #: 100353 UCFN: 7A-LA-208769  
ANALYST: SUBJECT:

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Was the information provided helpful to your investigation?  YES  NO  
If NO, please let us know how we could be more helpful to your investigation: \_\_\_\_\_

ACCOMPLISHMENT(S) resulting from information:

**PERSON(S):** (Enter total number applicable to each of the following)

\_\_\_\_\_ FBI Fugitive(s) Arrested:  FBI  Local Date \_\_\_\_\_

(Forward photo of Fugitive arrested with this Reply form)

\_\_\_\_ Local Fugitive(s) Arrested:  FBI  Local Date \_\_\_\_\_

(Forward photo of Fugitive arrested with this Reply form)

Subject(s)    Arrested    Located    Identified

(Forward photo of Subject arrested with this Reply form)

Witness(es)  Located  Identified

New Witness(es)  Located  Identified

**BUSINESS (ES):** (Enter total number applicable to each of the following)

\_\_\_\_\_ New Business(es) Identified

New Business Associates/Associations Identified

### Financial Audit Trail(s) Enhanced

**ASSET(S):** (Enter total number applicable to each of the following)

(TYPES: C = CASH R = REAL PROPERTY P = PERSONAL PROPERTY)

Asset(s)  Located  Identified [VALUE: \_\_\_\_\_ TYPE: \_\_\_\_\_]

Asset(s) Subject to Seizure/Forfeiture [VALUE: \_\_\_\_\_ TYPE: \_\_\_\_\_]

Potential Economic Loss Prevented [VALUE: \_\_\_\_\_ TYPE: \_\_\_\_\_ ]

**OTHER:** (Enter total number applicable to each of the following)

**New Case(s) Initiated**

### New Lead(s) Generated

**COMMENTS:**

1 - Case File  
1 - SITC

(12/31/1995)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: PRIORITY

Date: 07/28/1997

To: Boston

From: Los Angeles

Santa Barbara RA

Contact: SA [redacted] (805) 963-1745

Approved By: [redacted]

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b7C

Drafted By: [redacted]:bac

Case ID #: 7A-LA-208769 (Pending)

Title: UNKNOWN SUBJECT(S);  
GARY MARTIN DEVORE - VICTIM;  
KIDNAPPING

Synopsis: Lead set for Boston to determine validity of address, possibly associated with captioned victim.

Enclosures: Santa Barbara Bulletin regarding captioned victim which includes photograph.

Details: This investigation involves the mysterious disappearance of GARY MARTIN DEVORE, who was last heard from by his wife on 6/28/97. DEVORE, a white male, date of birth 9/17/41, is a screenwriter who was formerly married to NAT KING COLE's widow, MARIA COLE. DEVORE is currently married to WENDY B. OATES-DEVORE, white female, date of birth [redacted]. Their residence is located at [redacted] Carpinteria, California. There has been considerable national media coverage concerning DEVORE's disappearance due to his association with the television and film industry.

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On 6/23/97, DEVORE left Carpinteria, California, en route to Santa Fe, New Mexico, to visit actress [redacted] who resides at [redacted] Santa Fe, New Mexico. DEVORE arrived at [redacted] residence on 6/24/97. The purpose of the visit was to finish work on a script. DEVORE made the trip alone in a 1997 Ford Explorer, Eddie Bauer model, white in color, California license 3NGH592.

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DEVORE left Santa Fe on Friday, 6/27/97, en route back to Carpinteria, California. OATES-DEVORE says that she received a cellular telephone call from DEVORE on at or about 1:00 a.m., on Saturday, 6/28/97. OATES-DEVORE reports that DEVORE told her that he was in the area west of Barstow, California, he was anxious to see her, and he would be home at or about 4:00 a.m., that same date. OATES-DEVORE says that is the last contact she had with her husband.

7A-LA-208769-6  
SEARCHED [initials]  
INDEXED [initials]  
SERIALIZED [initials]  
FILED [initials]

To: Boston From: Los Angeles  
Re: 7A-LA-208769, 07/28/1997

OATES-DEVORE filed a missing person report with the Santa Barbara Sheriff's Department (SBSD), on 6/28/97, at 7:00 p.m., and immediately offered a \$10,000.00 reward for information concerning DEVORE's whereabouts. The reward has since been increased to \$100,000.00.

To date, efforts to locate DEVORE and his vehicle have been unsuccessful. There has been no demand for ransom, nor has there been any other indication of foul play, other than DEVORE's disappearance. Due to the interstate nature of this investigation, the SBSD has requested the assistance of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). Therefore, a preliminary inquiry is being conducted.

A review of Savannah Information Technology Center (SITC) records, indicates that the DCS National Inquiry System has a record of a GARY DEVORE, born September 17, 1941, with an address of (no house number) House Bracz Road S, Tyringham, Massachusetts 01264. It is unknown at this time if the GARY DEVORE identified in this record is identical to captioned victim. It is important to this investigation to determine if that property is associated with captioned victim and if the property is owned or currently used in any way by captioned victim. At this point it is unknown if captioned victim met with foul play or disappeared by his own accord. It is possible that DEVORE may have staged his disappearance.

**Descriptive Data:**

**Main Subject**

Name -

Last:

DEVORE

First:

GARY

Middle:

MARTIN

DDN:

Race:

W

Sex:

M

DOB:

09/17/1941

DLN:

California H0233047

SOC:

565-52-5747

Height:

5' 11"

Weight:

185 pounds

Facial Hair:

Graying full beard

Criminal record:

None

Miscellaneous -

Deformed, crooked  
finger on right hand.

To: Boston From: Los Angeles  
Re: 7A-LA-208769, 07/28/1997

LEAD (s):

Set Lead 1:

BOSTON

AT TYRINGHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

Is requested to verify the above information concerning a GARY DEVORE, born September 17, 1941, who may be residing at or formerly used an address on House Bracz Road S, TYRINGHAM, Massachusetts 01264. If there is a GARY DEVORE located at that address, obtain detailed information concerning that individual as well as the house number of that residence. Determine if the GARY DEVORE, associated with the address at TYRINGHAM, may be identical to captioned victim.

(12/31/1995)

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: PRIORITY

Date: 07/31/1997

To: St. Louis

Attn: Military Records

From: Los Angeles

Santa Barbara RA

Tom [initials] Contact: SA [redacted] (805) 963-1745

Approved By: [redacted]

Drafted By: [redacted] bac

Case ID #: 7A-LA-208769 (Pending)

Title: UNKNOWN SUBJECT(S);  
GARY MARTIN DEVORE - VICTIM;  
KIDNAPPING

Synopsis: Lead to obtain military record information on captioned victim per telephone conversation between IA [redacted] and SA [redacted] on 7/31/97.

Details: This investigation involves the mysterious disappearance of GARY MARTIN DEVORE, who was last heard from by his wife on 6/28/97. DEVORE, a white male, date of birth 9/17/41, is a screenwriter who was formerly married to NAT KING COLE's widow, MARIA COLE. DEVORE is currently married to WENDY B. OATES-DEVORE, white female, date of birth [redacted]. Their residence is located at [redacted] Carpinteria, California. There has been considerable national media coverage concerning DEVORE's disappearance due to his association with the television and film industry.

On 6/23/97, DEVORE left Carpinteria, California, en route to Santa Fe, New Mexico, to visit actress [redacted] who resides at [redacted] Santa Fe, New Mexico. DEVORE arrived at [redacted] residence on 6/24/97. The purpose of the visit was to finish work on a script. DEVORE made the trip alone in a 1997 Ford Explorer, Eddie Bauer model, white in color, California license 3NGH592.

DEVORE left Santa Fe on Friday, 6/27/97, en route back to Carpinteria, California. OATES-DEVORE says that she received a cellular telephone call from DEVORE on at or about 1:00 a.m., on Saturday, 6/28/97. OATES-DEVORE reports that DEVORE told her that he was in the area west of Barstow, California, he was anxious to see her, and he would be home at or about 4:00 a.m., that same date. OATES-DEVORE says that is the last contact she had with her husband.

OATES-DEVORE filed a missing person report with the Santa Barbara Sheriff's Department (SBSD), on 6/28/97, at 7:00

7A-LA-208769-7  
SEARCHED [initials]  
INDEXED [initials]  
SERIALIZED [initials]  
FILED [initials]

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b7C

b6  
b7C

To: St. Louis From: Los Angeles  
Re: 7A-LA-208769, 07/31/1997

p.m., and immediately offered a \$10,000.00 reward for information concerning DEVORE's whereabouts. The reward has since been increased to \$100,000.00.

To date, efforts to locate DEVORE and his vehicle have been unsuccessful. There has been no demand for ransom, nor has there been any other indication of foul play, other than DEVORE's disappearance. Due to the interstate nature of this investigation, the SBSD has requested the assistance of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). Therefore, a preliminary inquiry is being conducted.

This investigation has developed information which indicates that captioned victim was formerly in the United States Army National Guard. It is essential to obtain a set of fingerprints and determine the blood type of captioned victim.

**Descriptive Data:**

Main Subject

Name -	
Last:	DEVORE
First:	GARY
Middle:	MARTIN
DDN:	
Race:	W
Sex:	M
DOB:	09/11/1941
DLN:	California H0233047
SOC:	565-52-5747
Height:	5' 11"
Weight:	185 pounds
Facial Hair:	Graying full beard
Criminal Record:	None
Miscellaneous -	Deformed, crooked finger on right hand.

To: St. Louis From: Los Angeles  
Re: 7A-LA-208769, 07/31/1997

LEAD (s):

Set Lead 1:

ST. LOUIS

AT MILITARY RECORDS CENTER

Is requested to obtain a fingerprint card and determine the blood type of captioned victim, then forward to the Santa Barbara Resident Agency.

♦♦

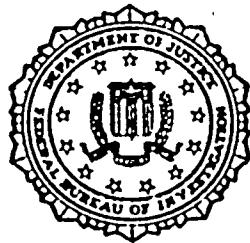
\*\*\*\*\* -JOURNAL- \*\*\*\*\* DATE JUL-31-1997 \*\*\*\*\* TIME 13:58 \*\*\*\*\*

DATE TIME = JUL-31 13:56  
DATE = 31  
RESULT = OK  
PAGES = 04  
DURATION = 00:01'20  
MODE = XMT  
STATION NAME =  
TELEPHONE NO. = T 13145892636  
RECEIVED ID =  
RESOLUTION = STANDARD

-FBI Santa Barbara -

\*\*\*\*\* -

805 966 4625- \*\*\*\*\*



**FBI FACSIMILE  
COVERSHEET**

## CLASSIFICATION

## PRECEDENCE

- Immediate*
- Priority*
- Routine*

- Top Secret**
- Secret**
- Confidential**
- Sensitive**
- Unclassified**

**Time Transmitted:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Sender's Initials:** \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Pages: 4

To: FBI ST. LOUIS (Name of Office) Date: 7/31/97

Facsimile number: 314-589-2636

From: FBI LOS ANGELES / SANTA BARBARA RA  
(Name of Office)

Subject: GARY MARTIN DEVORE

**Special Handling Instructions:** \_\_\_\_\_

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b7c

Originator's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: 805-963-1745

Originator's Facsimile Number: 805-9660-4625

Approved: 9/14/18

FBIND

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

Precedence: IMMEDIATE

Date: 07/31/1997

To: Los Angeles

Att.: SA

Santa Barbara RA

From: St Louis

Contact: IA [redacted]

Approved By: [redacted]

Drafted By: [redacted] mfm

Case ID #: 7A-LA-208769 (Pending)

b6  
b7CTitle: UNSUB(S);  
GARY MARTIN DEVORE - VICTIM  
KIDNAPPINGSynopsis: Results of investigation at Federal Records Center,  
Military Branch, St. Louis, Missouri.Administrative: Re Los Angeles telcall to IA [redacted] dated  
07/31/1997.Enclosures: Enclosed for Los Angeles are pertinent documents  
regarding Army service of Gary Martin Devore, date of birth  
09/17/1941.

Details: All investigation completed at St. Louis.

♦♦

7A-LA-208769-8

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 1997	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

- 1 -

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription

7/31/97

[redacted] of National Leisure Group, Incorporated, Woburn, Massachusetts, was contacted at her place of employment. At the onset of the interview [redacted] was advised of the identity of the interviewer and that she was being interviewed concerning travel arrangements made for a customer named [redacted] thereafter provided the following information.

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[redacted] advised that in the past year, two reservations for airline travel were made for a [redacted] On July 7, 1997 a one way reservation was made via telephone for [redacted] to travel from San Francisco to Boston On Sun trips Charter flight number [redacted] departing on July 15, 1997 at [redacted] p.m. [redacted] advised that Sun trips Charter is booked under American Trans Air. Payment for this reservation was made via MasterCard number [redacted] [redacted] further advises that when a reservation is made with a credit card, the card must be in the same name as the ticket holder, or it will be rejected by the computer. National Leisure Group's computer has a program that checks this information with the credit card company's database. This ticket was mailed to [redacted] via Airborne Express to [redacted] San Francisco, California 94116. telephone number [redacted] (tracking number [redacted])

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b7C

Another reservation for airline travel was made on July 29, 1997 for [redacted] Again, this reservation was done telephonically, for one way travel on August 6, 1997 from Boston to San Francisco, flight number [redacted] departing from Logan International Airport at [redacted] p.m. Again this flight was booked on American Trans Air. [redacted] states that customers are advised to call 1-800-435-9282 two hours prior to departure, whereas this airline is known for its frequent delays of departure. This reservation was paid in full with MasterCard number [redacted] On this reservation [redacted] used a mailing address of [redacted] Brooklyn, NY 11205, and a telephone number of [redacted] At the time of this interview

b6  
b7CInvestigation on 7/30/97 at Woburn, MAFile # 7A-LA-208769 -9 Date dictated 7/31/97by [redacted] tmf

7A-LA-208769

Continuation of FD-302 of

[redacted], On 7/30/97

, Page 2

these tickets were not mailed to [redacted] but were scheduled for the next mailing on July 31, 1997. These were the only two reservations that were found for [redacted] and at no time did he request reservations for another passenger or request any other services from this company.

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LA 7A-LA-208769

GRB/bac

*445*

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent [redacted] on July 31, 1997, in Santa Barbara, California:

[redacted] Criminal Justice Information Services Division, Clarksburg, West Virginia, was telephonically contacted at 304-625-5584. [redacted] advised that there were no fingerprints on file for GARY MARTIN DEVORE, born September 17, 1941, Social Security Account Number 565-52-5747.

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b7C

7A-LA-208769-10

7A-DA-208769-10

X

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED <i>m</i>	FILED <i>10</i>
AUG 6 1997	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

*6*

7A-LA-208769

GRB:hy

b6

The following investigation was conducted by SA [redacted]  
[redacted] in Santa Barbara, California on July 30, 1997:

Investigative Analyst [redacted] Military Records  
Center, St. Louis, Missouri, was telephonically contacted at 314-  
428-1698. IA [redacted] advised that there was no record of a [redacted]  
[redacted] born [redacted] social security account  
number [redacted] who had been discharged from the United  
States military, nor was there any record of [redacted] being in the  
United States military reserves.

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7A-LA-208769-11

7A-LA-208769-11

SEARCHED INDEXED  
SERIALIZED FILED

JUL 30 1997

FBI - LOS ANGELES

LA 7A-LA-208769

GRB/bac

W/M

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent (SA) [REDACTED] on July 16, 1997, in Santa Barbara, California:

An individual who identified himself as [REDACTED] residing at [REDACTED] Santa Barbara, California, home telephone number [REDACTED] telephonically contacted this writer and advised that he was a friend of WENDY and GARY DEVORE. [REDACTED] stated that he was in daily contact with WENDY and that he was inquiring about the missing person investigation of GARY DEVORE on behalf of WENDY. [REDACTED] stated that he was a producer who worked in the film and television industry. [REDACTED] advised that friends of the DEVORE's were still conducting limited searches in the area that GARY was last known to be. [REDACTED] stated that he was concerned about the accuracy of the cellular telephone company reports regarding GARY's last known location. [REDACTED] stated that he had heard conflicting reports from a private investigator and other individuals as to exactly where GARY's last transmission was recorded. [REDACTED] heard that DEVORE's last known location was near Barstow, California, or west of Barstow.

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7A-LA-208769-12

LA 7A-LA-208769

GRB/bac

*44*  
The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent (SA) [redacted] in Santa Barbara, California, on July 15, 1997:

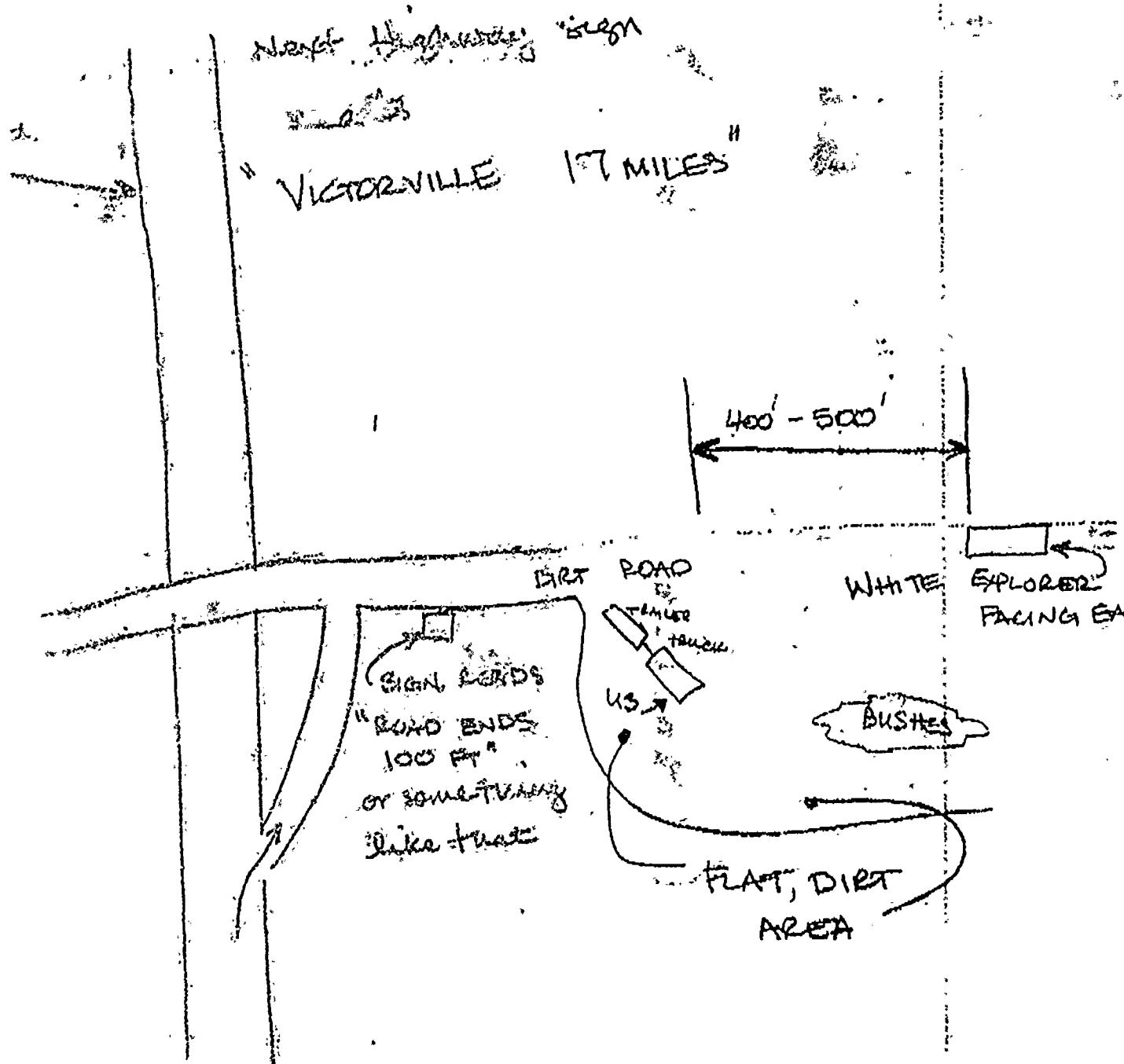
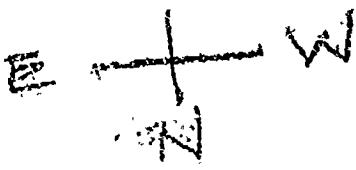
[redacted] Detective [redacted] advised that he spoke to [redacted] residing at [redacted] San Pedro, California, home telephone number [redacted] work telephone number [redacted] [redacted] on the telephone on the morning of July 15, 1997. [redacted] informed [redacted] that she watched the AMERICAS MOST WANTED television program on July 12, 1997, and provided the following information to assist the investigation to locate GARY MARTIN DEVORE. [redacted] advised that at approximately 8:30 p.m., on June 29, 1997, she was traveling southbound on Interstate 15, driving a truck and pulling a trailer. They experienced electrical problems which caused a malfunction in the trailer lights; therefore they pulled off Interstate 15, approximately 17 miles north of Victorville, California. [redacted] faxed the attached map to Detective [redacted]. The map gives a detailed description of the area in which they pulled off Interstate 15. [redacted] advised that after pulling off on a dirt road, they noticed a white Ford Explorer parked in the same area. The passenger door on the Explorer was open and after approximately 30 to 45 minutes, the Explorer drove off. [redacted] did not get a look at any individual in the Explorer.

This information was provided to SA [redacted] on July 15, 1997. SA [redacted] advised that he conducted a search in the above area for the body of DEVORE with negative results. See SA [redacted] insert for details.

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b6  
b7C

7A-LA-208769-13



31. DEFENCE

- 1 -

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription

8/4/1997

WENDY B. OATES-DEVORE, white female, born [redacted] residing at [redacted] Carpinteria, California, telephonically contacted this writer at the Santa Barbara Resident Agency and left a message to return the call. OATES-DEVORE was telephonically contacted at [redacted] and advised of the identity of the interviewing agent.

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OATES-DEVORE advised that she had contacted this writer because she was dissatisfied with the investigative efforts of the Santa Barbara Sheriff's Department (SBSD). OATES-DEVORE stated that she was distraught over the fact that it had been six weeks since her husband's (GARY MARTIN DEVORE) disappearance and he has not been located. She stated that it was very difficult for her emotionally and financially and wanted everything possible to be done to locate her husband and resolve the matter concerning his disappearance. She advised that she had been in contact with BUCK REVELLE (phonetically spelled), a private investigator and former special agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), who was the number three man in charge of the FBI at one time. She was considering hiring him to assist in the investigation. OATES-DEVORE stated that she was concerned that the SBSD was not diligently covering all leads and that some parts of the investigation (i.e. obtaining cellular telephone records) were taking too long. She stated that she wanted the FBI to be more active in running the investigation. OATES-DEVORE was informed by this writer that the SBSD had primary jurisdiction in investigating this matter at this time.

b6  
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Investigation on 8/4/1997 at Santa Barbara, CA (telephonically)  
 File # 7A-LA-208769-14 Date dictated 8/4/1997  
 by WUSA [redacted] hy

7A-LA-208769-14

SEARCHED  INDEXED   
SERIALIZED  FILED

AUG 14 1997

FBI - LOS ANGELES

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: PRIORITY

Date: 08/14/1997

To: Sacramento

Attn: Bakersfield RA

From: Los Angeles

Santa Barbara RA

Contact: SA [redacted]

(805) 963-1745

Approved By: [redacted]

Drafted By: [redacted] bac

Case ID #: 7A-LA-208769-15 (Pending)

Title: UNKNOWN SUBJECT(S);  
GARY MARTIN DEVORE - VICTIM;  
KIDNAPPINGA COPY OF THIS EC  
WAS FIXED TO BAKERSFIELD  
RA ON 8/14/97.b6  
b7C

Synopsis: Lead to obtain information concerning [redacted].

Details: This investigation involves the mysterious disappearance of GARY MARTIN DEVORE, who was last heard from by his wife on 6/28/97. DEVORE, a white male, date of birth 9/17/41, is a screenwriter who was formerly married to NAT KING COLE's widow, MARIA COLE. DEVORE is currently married to WENDY B. OATES-DEVORE, white female, date of birth [redacted]. Their residence is located at [redacted] Carpinteria, California. There has been considerable national media coverage concerning DEVORE's disappearance due to his association with the television and film industry.

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b7C

On 6/23/97, DEVORE left Carpinteria, California, en route to Santa Fe, New Mexico, to visit actress [redacted] who resides at [redacted] Santa Fe, New Mexico. DEVORE arrived at [redacted] residence on 6/24/97. The purpose of the visit was to finish work on a script. DEVORE made the trip alone in a 1997 Ford Explorer, Eddie Bauer model, white in color, California license 3NGH592.

b6  
b7C

DEVORE left Santa Fe on Friday, 6/27/97, en route back to Carpinteria, California. OATES-DEVORE says that she received a cellular telephone call from DEVORE on at or about 1:00 a.m., on Saturday, 6/28/97. OATES-DEVORE reports that DEVORE told her that he was in the area west of Barstow, California, he was anxious to see her, and he would be home at or about 4:00 a.m., that same date. OATES-DEVORE says that is the last contact she had with her husband.

OATES-DEVORE filed a missing person report with the Santa Barbara Sheriff's Department (SBSD), on 6/28/97, at 7:00 p.m., and immediately offered a \$10,000.00 reward for information concerning DEVORE's whereabouts. The reward has since been INDEXED, SERIALIZED, FILED.

7A-LA-208769-15

SEARCHED  
INDEXED  
SERIALIZED  
FILED

To: Sacramento From: Los Angeles  
Re: 7A-LA-208769, 08/14/1997

increased to \$100,000.00.

To date, efforts to locate DEVORE and his vehicle have been unsuccessful. There has been no demand for ransom, nor has there been any other indication of foul play, other than DEVORE's disappearance. Due to the interstate nature of this investigation, the SBSD has requested the assistance of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). Therefore, a preliminary inquiry is being conducted.

On August 13, 1997, Detective [REDACTED] Santa Barbara Sheriff's Department (SBSD), Santa Barbara, California, advised that he telephonically interviewed [REDACTED] residing at [REDACTED] California City, California. home telephone [REDACTED] work telephone number [REDACTED] [REDACTED] advised that during July 1997, he came across a burned up sport utility vehicle in the desert. The vehicle was located approximately 20 miles north of California City. [REDACTED] stated that it would be difficult for him to provide directions to that vehicle, but he would be willing to take a law enforcement officer to its location.

b6  
b7C

**Descriptive Data:**

**Main Subject**

Name -	
Last:	DEVORE
First:	GARY
Middle:	MARTIN
DDN:	
Race:	W
Sex:	M
DOB:	09/17/1941
DLN:	California H0233047
SOC:	565-52-5747
Height:	5' 11"
Weight:	185 pounds
Facial Hair:	Graying full beard
Miscellaneous -	Deformed, crooked finger on right hand.

To: Sacramento From: Los Angeles  
Re: 7A-LA-208769, 08/14/1997

LEAD (s):

Set Lead 1:

SACRAMENTO

AT CALIFORNIA CITY, CALIFORNIA

Is requested to interview [redacted] regarding his knowledge of the vehicle and captioned matter, and to locate the sport utility vehicle. Take photographs of this vehicle and obtain identification numbers including vehicle identification number and license plate number if available. Attempt to determine make and model of this vehicle and gather any other descriptive data pertaining to the vehicle in an effort to determine if this vehicle may be identical to the one driven by captioned victim.

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE

Date: 08/20/1997

To: LOS ANGELES ✓

Attn: SANTA BARRARA RA  
SA [redacted]

From: BOSTON

SPRINGFIELD RA

Contact: SA [redacted] (413) 735-2310

b6  
b7C

Approved By: [redacted]

Drafted By: [redacted]:lsg

Case ID #: 7A-LA-208769 (Pending) - 16

Title: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS;  
GARY MARTIN DEVORE-VICTIM;  
KIDNAPPING;  
(OO:LA)

Synopsis: Tyringham, Massachusetts investigation conducted with negative results.

Details: On 8/18-19/97, an investigation was conducted in the Tyringham, Massachusetts area in order to ascertain if victim may have possibly returned to his former residence in Tyringham. No evidence was obtained regarding the victim's current whereabouts.

Part-time Police Officer, [redacted] TYRINGHAM POLICE DEPARTMENT, was interviewed regarding victim. [redacted] advised that victim left the Tyringham, Massachusetts area approximately 18 years ago and has not been seen since that time. He noted that victim was the former husband of MARIA COLE and remarked that both victim and COLE also used to be the proprietors of the "Morgan House" restaurant in Lee, Massachusetts. [redacted] advised that the former residence of victim DEVORE, which is located on House Brace Road in Tyringham, was sold approximately one year ago for \$1.2 million. [redacted] then advised the interviewing agent of the location of the former DEVORE estate and stated that he would advise the FBI if he should locate or observe the victim's 1997 Ford Explorer in the Tyringham area.

[redacted] Caretaker of the former DEVORE estate, advised that he has been the Caretaker at the estate since May, 1996. [redacted] upon being shown a copy of the missing person flyer from the Santa Barbara, California Sheriff's Department, advised that he has not seen victim at the estate. He reported no observations of a 1997 white Ford Explorer. [redacted] was then

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7A-LA-208769-16

To: LOS ANGELES From: BOSTON  
Re: 7A-LA-208769, 08/20/1997

given the interviewing agent's Springfield RA telephone number and stated that he would contact the RA should he observe either victim DEVORE or his vehicle.

[redacted] and [redacted] could provide no additional information regarding victim.

Springfield RA considers its Tyringham, Massachusetts investigation to be concluded.

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**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION****Precedence:** PRIORITY**Date:** 07/30/1997**To:** Boston**From:** Los Angeles

TPM/AV Santa Barbara RA

**Contact:** SA [redacted]

(805) 963-1745

**Approved By:** [redacted]**Drafted By:** [redacted] bacb6  
b7C**Case ID #:** 7A-LA-208769-17 (Pending)**Title:** UNKNOWN SUBJECT(S);  
GARY MARTIN DEVORE - VICTIM;  
KIDNAPPING**Synopsis:** Lead to obtain travel information from the Vacation Outlet in Woburn, Massachusetts.**Details:** This investigation involves the mysterious disappearance of GARY MARTIN DEVORE, who was last heard from by his wife on 6/28/97. DEVORE, a white male, date of birth 9/17/41, is a screenwriter who was formerly married to NAT KING COLE's widow, MARIA COLE. DEVORE is currently married to WENDY B. OATES-DEVORE, white female, date of birth [redacted]. Their residence is located at [redacted] Carpinteria, California. There has been considerable national media coverage concerning DEVORE's disappearance due to his association with the television and film industry.b6  
b7C

On 6/23/97, DEVORE left Carpinteria, California, en route to Santa Fe, New Mexico, to visit actress [redacted] who resides at [redacted] Santa Fe, New Mexico. DEVORE arrived at [redacted] residence on 6/24/97. The purpose of the visit was to finish work on a script. DEVORE made the trip alone in a 1997 Ford Explorer, Eddie Bauer model, white in color, California license 3NGH592.

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b7C

DEVORE left Santa Fe on Friday, 6/27/97, en route back to Carpinteria, California. OATES-DEVORE says that she received a cellular telephone call from DEVORE on at or about 1:00 a.m., on Saturday, 6/28/97. OATES-DEVORE reports that DEVORE told her that he was in the area west of Barstow, California, he was anxious to see her, and he would be home at or about 4:00 a.m., that same date. OATES-DEVORE says that is the last contact she had with her husband.

7A-LA-208769-17

OATES-DEVORE filed a missing person report with the Santa Barbara Sheriff's Department (SBSD), on 6/28/97, at 7:00 p.m., and immediately offered a \$10,000.00 reward for information

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INDEXED

SERIALIZED

FILED

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To: Boston From: Los Angeles  
Re: 7A-LA-208769, 07/30/1997

concerning DEVORE's whereabouts. The reward has since been increased to \$100,000.00.

To date, efforts to locate DEVORE and his vehicle have been unsuccessful. There has been no demand for ransom, nor has there been any other indication of foul play, other than DEVORE's disappearance. Due to the interstate nature of this investigation, the SBSD has requested the assistance of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). Therefore, a preliminary inquiry is being conducted.

[redacted] has been identified as a possible co-conspirator in the disappearance of captioned victim.

[redacted] whose exact address is unknown at this time, has used various addresses in San Francisco, California; Steamboat Springs, Colorado, and New Jersey. On July 7, 1997, [redacted] made travel reservations through the Vacation Outlet in Woburn, Massachusetts, telephone number (800) 435-7683, using his MasterCard, card number [redacted]. It is essential to this investigation to obtain all information pertaining to [redacted] travel plans made on that date. On July 30, 1997, [redacted]

[redacted] the Vacation Outlet, 100 Sylvan Road, Suite 600, Woburn, Massachusetts 01801, telephone number (617) 424-7990, was telephonically contacted at (800) 435-7683. [redacted] advised that [redacted] travel records can be obtained from the Vacation Outlet if a Special Agent (SA) with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) requests that information in person at their place of business. [redacted] advised that his [redacted] could be contacted between the business hours of 9:00 a.m., and 6:00 p.m., and that information would be provided.

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**Descriptive Data:**

Reference

Name -

Last:

First:

Middle:

DDN:

Race:

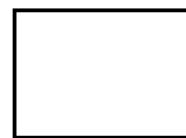
Sex:

DOB:

DLN:

SOC:

Miscellaneous -



U

M



Height: 5' 9"  
Weight: 150 pounds  
Hair: Black  
Eyes: Brown

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b7C

To: Boston From: Los Angeles  
Re: 7A-LA-208769, 07/30/1997

LEAD (s):

Set Lead 1:

BOSTON

AT WOBURN, MASSACHUSETTS

Is requested to contact [redacted] The Vacation  
Outlet, 100 Sylvan Road, Suite 600, Woburn, Massachusetts 01801,  
telephone number (617)424-7990, and obtain all information  
pertaining to travel reservations made by [redacted]  
on July 7, 1997. This information should include origin and  
destination of travel, all dates, airlines, hotel and rental car  
reservations, and addresses used by [redacted] including the  
address which any tickets may have been mailed to. Obtain  
information on any other travel reservations made by [redacted]  
within the past year and any other information which may be  
available pertaining to [redacted]

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b7C

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## FBI FACSIMILE COVERSHEET

### CLASSIFICATION

#### PRECEDENCE

- Immediate
- Priority
- Routine

- Top Secret
- Secret
- Confidential
- Sensitive
- Unclassified

Time Transmitted: \_\_\_\_\_

Sender's Initials: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Pages: 4

To: FBI BOSTON / SQUAD C-6 Date: 7/30/97  
 (Name of Office)

Facsimile number: 617-223-6396

Attn:   
 (Name) Room Telephone No.)

From: FBI LOS ANGELES / SANTA BARBARA RA  
 (Name of Office)

Subject: GARY DEVORE  
7A-LA-208769

b6  
b7C

Special Handling Instructions: PLEASE HAND DELIVER ASAP

Originator's Name:

Telephone: 805-963-1745

Originator's Facsimile Number: 805-966-4625

Approved: scb

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE

Date: 09/11/1997

To: Los Angeles

Attn: SA [redacted]

From: SA [redacted]

Lancaster RA

Contact: SA [redacted]

- (805) 642-3995

b6  
b7C

Approved By: [redacted]

Drafted By: [redacted] mam

Case ID #: 7A-LA-208769 (Pending)

Title: UNKNOWN SUBJECT(S);  
GARY MARTIN DEVORE - VICTIM  
KIDNAPPING

Synopsis: Lead covered regarding subject vehicle and vehicle eliminated.

Reference: 7A-LA-208769 Serial 15

Enclosures: Enclosed for Los Angeles are 4 photographs, 2 of suspect's vehicle, and 2 of a new Montero "LS" sport utility vehicle.

Details: On 9/9/97, with the able assistance of reporting party, [redacted] DOB: [redacted] the suspect vehicle was located in a ravine just off of Trial B-10 near the community of Red Mountain, California, in Kern County.

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b7C

The vehicle was lying on the passenger side, and had been torched with what appeared to be a large amount of super heated accelerant, making it unrecognizable as to brand and model. However, continuous inquiry at certain automobile dealerships in the Santa Clarita/Antelope Valley areas identified the burned out hulk as a Mitsubishi Montero "LS" sport utility vehicle (suv) with an "off road package," obviously not the victim's Ford Explorer.

Photographs were taken of the hulk, as well as a new vehicle at the dealers, and are enclosed to show how identity was effected.

♦♦

7A-LA-208769-18

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
SEP 12 1997	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

*[Handwritten signature/initials over the stamp]*

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(12/31/1995)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE

Date: 10/22/1997

To: New York

From: Los Angeles

Santa Barbara RA

Contact: SA [redacted] (805) 963-1745

Approved By: [redacted]

b6  
b7C

Drafted By: [redacted] bac

Case ID #: 7A-LA-208769 (Pending)

Title: UNKNOWN SUBJECT(S);  
GARY MARTIN DEVORE - VICTIM;  
KIDNAPPING

Synopsis: Lead to interview captioned subject's sister, [redacted]

Administrative: SA [redacted] New York Division, was b6  
telephonically contacted by SA [redacted] on October 21, b7C  
1997, regarding this lead. SA [redacted] was known to be an  
acquaintance of [redacted] therefore, she was requested to  
conduct this lead investigation. It is requested that this lead  
be assigned to SA [redacted]

Details: This investigation involves the mysterious  
disappearance of GARY MARTIN DEVORE, who was last heard from by  
his wife on 6/28/97. DEVORE, a white male, date of birth  
9/17/41, is a screenwriter who was formerly married to NAT KING  
COLE's widow, MARIA COLE. DEVORE is currently married to WENDY  
B. OATES-DEVORE, white female, date of birth [redacted]. Their  
residence is located at [redacted] Carpinteria,  
California. There has been considerable national media coverage  
concerning DEVORE's disappearance due to his association with the  
television and film industry.

b6  
b7C

On 6/23/97, DEVORE left Carpinteria, California, en  
route to Santa Fe, New Mexico, to visit actress [redacted] who  
resides at [redacted] Sante Fe, New Mexico. DEVORE  
arrived at [redacted] residence on 6/24/97. The purpose of the  
visit was to finish work on a script. DEVORE made the trip alone  
in a 1997 Ford Explorer, Eddie Bauer model, white in color,  
California license 3NGH592.

b6  
b7C

DEVORE left Santa Fe on Friday, 6/27/97, en route back  
to Carpinteria, California. OATES-DEVORE said that she received  
a cellular telephone call from DEVORE at or about 1:00 a.m., on  
Saturday, 6/28/97. OATES-DEVORE reports that DEVORE told her  
that he was in the area west of Barstow, California, and would be

7A-LA-208769-19

To: New York From: Los Angeles  
Re: 7A-LA-208769, 10/22/1997

home about 4:00 a.m., that same date. OATES-DEVORE said that is the last contact she had with her husband.

OATES-DEVORE filed a missing person report with the Santa Barbara Sheriff's Department (SBSD), on 6/28/97, at 7:00 p.m. To date, efforts to locate DEVORE and his vehicle have been unsuccessful. There has been no demand for ransom, nor has there been any other indication of foul play, other than DEVORE's disappearance. Due to the interstate nature of this investigation, the SBSD requested the assistance of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).

On October 21, 1997, Detective [REDACTED] Santa Barbara Sheriff's Department (SBSD), Santa Barbara, California, telephonically contacted this writer and advised that he was contacted on October 20, 1997, by captioned subject's [REDACTED] [REDACTED] who resides in Los Angeles. [REDACTED] told Detective [REDACTED] that [REDACTED] was traveling to New York during the week of October 20, 1997, to meet with two ex-agents of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), regarding captioned subject. Detective [REDACTED] stated that [REDACTED] had no further information regarding this meeting.

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b7C

It was known that [REDACTED] was an acquaintance of SA [REDACTED] and therefore, it was believed that [REDACTED] may make contact with SA [REDACTED] while in New York. It was unknown where [REDACTED] planned to stay while in New York. During this writer's telephone conversation with SA [REDACTED] SA [REDACTED] advised that she had been contacted by [REDACTED] on October 19, 1997, and that [REDACTED] was currently in New York.

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b7C

To: New York From: Los Angeles  
Re: 7A-LA-208769, 10/22/1997



LEAD (s):

Set Lead 1:

NEW YORK

AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK

SA [redacted] is requested to provide the information she obtained from [redacted] regarding the nature of [redacted] trip to New York and any other information pertinent to this investigation.

b6  
b7C

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state)

LOS ANGELES TIMES, pg. A3

# Screenwriter Vanishes in

## Scenario Fit for Film

■ Gary Devore phoned his wife June 28 while driving in desert, then disappeared. Despite air and ground searches, flier distribution and heavy media attention, he's still missing.

By ROBERT W. WELKOS  
TIMES STAFF WRITER

His wife has one theory: He could have been carjacked and suffered a severe head injury, the 1997 Eddie Bauer Edition Ford Explorer he was driving smuggled into Mexico and chopped up.

A Hollywood colleague has another theory: Someone lying in wait may have signaled to cohorts who forced him to stop.

Even the psychic who took part in the search has a theory: He received a blow to the right side of his head from at least two people, maybe three. He was moved a considerable distance—she saw a canyon, lavender flowers, streams. He is not in the spirit world, the vibrations tell her. He is, rather, between two worlds, perhaps in a coma.

Unspoken is the possibility that Gary Devore simply decided to walk away from his life—or that he is party to an elaborate Hollywood hoax.

It has now been a month since screenwriter Devore vanished without a trace while driving from New Mexico through the Southern California desert—his last known whereabouts determined by a cellular phone call to his wife at their beachfront Carpinteria home in the wee hours of June 28. There have been no sightings of him or the Explorer. No use of his credit cards.

Police agencies throughout Southern California, along with Devore's family and friends, have conducted air and ground searches, and the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department is coordinating an investigation that includes the FBI. Sheriff's Sgt. Bill Byrne said that Devore's name has been placed in a national crime computer and that detectives are backtracking his activities. And a flamboyant Hollywood-style publicity campaign has been mounted to keep interest in the case alive.

Devore's mysterious disappearance has shaken his family and caused anguish among some in the Hollywood film community, where Devore, 55, has been a productive writer with credits ranging from the movie "The Dogs of

Please see DEVORE, A22

Date:  
Edition:

Sunday  
7-27-97

Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

C-1

Indexing:



NINA PROMMER / Globe Photos

Gary Devore was driving back from New Mexico when he disappeared.

20  
7A-LA-208769

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 28 1997	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

*Im*

Continued from A3

"War," starring Christopher Walken, to the film "Running Scared," with Gregory Hines and Billy Crystal.

"It's extremely stressful for all of us," said Barry Rosenbush, a producer on the movie Devore was writing at the time he disappeared. "Not a word. Not a trace. Nothing. There is no closure. It's 'Hello, Honey, I'll be home in a couple of hours,' and he's vanished. To all of us, it's like this open, gaping, psychological wound."

Said Gary Richman, a friend from junior high school days: "It was like he was sucked up somewhere."

So they wait, holding out hope that authorities or a private citizen turns up a clue to Devore's whereabouts. A \$100,000 reward has been offered.

"I don't go along with the idea that a person can disappear into thin air," said his 82-year-old father, David Devore. "Other than Judge Crater, how many times does that happen?"

(Crater, a New York state jurist, vanished after catching a Manhattan cab on Aug. 6, 1930.)

Mike Webb, who works for Crutchfield Investigators in Beverly Hills, said it is impossible to pinpoint where Devore's cellular phone call originated, but it probably was inside a 25-mile radius near the desert communities of Mojave and Rosamond.

"Based on his conversation with his wife and where his last phone call came from, he took Highway 58 out of Barstow west," Webb said. "That leads into Mojave. We believe that logically he would have taken Highway 14 south out of Mojave, if he was heading home. From there, he has options."

The search for Devore has been chronicled far and wide in the media, from local news outlets to such national TV shows as "Inside Edition" and "America's Most Wanted."

"We have incredible media coverage," said Wendy Oates-Devore, the missing man's wife. "Thank God we have had that available to us."

Psychics, private eyes, trackers, bloodhounds, plots and stuntmen have scoured Southern California's High Desert looking for Devore.

To keep interest in the case high, a flashy publicity drive has been mounted by Devore's Los Angeles media consultant, Michael Sands, who likens his effort to a military campaign, dubbing it "Operation Desert Devore."

Sands is an actor-turned-public relations man who says he created the white chocolate chip cookie and once represented Mr. Blackwell, the designer known for his annual worst-dressed celebrity lists.

Sands said he sees the search as an "educational tool."

"It's like a combat manual for the public: how to find someone you are involved with, that you love, who is missing," he said. "We established the ground troops. We had our own air strikes."

Sands even said he has "plastic surgeons and brain surgeons ready to go" at a moment's notice should Devore turn up injured.

When the consultant learned from Oates-Devore that her husband was missing, he immediately went to work coordinating interviews.

On Sunday morning (June 29), "I got calls from every TV station in town," Sands said. "They came over one by one. It was like a Mr. Blackwell kind of thing."

Sands freely gives out the phone numbers of Devore's wife, childhood friends and Hollywood colleagues. "I never deal in no comment," he said. "I like everyone to talk—win, lose or draw."

Sands put out a provocative press release with the headline **"WITHOUT A TRACE... MOVIE TITLE OR REALITY? IS ART IMITATING LIFE OR THE OTHER WAY AROUND?"**

It questioned whether Devore's disappearance might be linked to, among other things, "after-shocks around Barstow" or a lawsuit he has pending on appeal against the estate of singer Nat King Cole. (Devore was married nine years to Cole's widow, Maria.) Sands said he posed the questions simply to spur interest. "I like to be creative and get people to think, because this is an entertainment-related story," he said.

Neither the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department, Devore's wife, nor even Sands said they believe that the lawsuit had anything to do with the disappearance.

Sands said he brought up the suit only because Devore once told him, "Someday you might want to mention it."

In a phone message left with a Times reporter, Sands playfully suggested that Devore's disappearance could make for a good movie, and even posited a cast—Diana Ross as Maria Cole, Jodie Foster as Oates-Devore and Martin Short as Sands.

Oates-Devore vigorously defends the media consultant. "I don't think he has overstepped,"

anything," she said.

In the weeks since Devore disappeared, his wife said, she has grown increasingly disenchanted with the law enforcement effort to find him. At one point in an interview with The Times, she described investigators as "morons" after learning, to her dismay, that they had a surveillance photo of her husband—taken in a Flagstaff, Ariz., convenience store the night he drove west—but had not told her about it. She said she learned of the photograph from a TV reporter.

On Wednesday, Oates-Devore voluntarily underwent a three-hour lie detector test at the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department. Sgt. Byrne declined to discuss the results, but said that a polygraph was routine in such cases and that Oates-Devore is not a suspect.

Still, a distraught Oates-Devore believes otherwise. "I know they were looking at me," she said. "I'm just thrilled [Devore] didn't have a huge life insurance policy."

A former model from Palm Beach, Fla., and New York City, Oates-Devore came to Los Angeles in the mid-1970s to pursue an acting career. She later enlisted as an administrator for a Los Angeles plastic surgeon, Dr. Richard Ellenbogen, appearing on more than 100 radio and TV shows to discuss the pros and cons of plastic surgery.

She met Devore four years ago, she said, while getting her hair cut next to him at Cristophe in Beverly Hills. "We were talking about our mothers," Oates-Devore recalled.

They did not marry until January 1996, she said, "but we were inseparable from that time [when they met] on." She would become Devore's fourth wife.

People close to Devore say the man they know would never drop from sight without telling his family. They say he loved his wife, had no known enemies, did not take illegal drugs and was not depressed.

In fact, they noted, he was about to embark on an exciting new direction in his career, as director on an RKO Pictures remake of the 1949 robbery caper "The Big Steal," which had starred Robert Mitchum. The remake was to be set at the Panama Canal.

Robert O'Connor, RKO's president of production, said Devore was in the midst of writing his initial draft when he vanished.

Before he set out, his wife said, Devore had been staying for a few days at the Santa Fe, N.M., home of actress Marsha Mason, working on the script.

"She was kind enough to give him her home," Oates-Devore said. "She had done that before because he was inspired there."

On Friday, June 27, Devore had packed up the Explorer about 11 a.m. He went to lunch with Mason and her niece, returning to Mason's around 2 p.m. He dropped the niece off at the Albuquerque airport and then headed to California, according to Oates-Devore. Mason declined to discuss the case.

Authorities originally said Devore was carrying a .38-caliber revolver for protection, but his wife later told The Times that she found the .38 and now believes he took along a .44-caliber Colt.

The 5 foot 11-inch, 185-pound Devore could look rugged and cowboyish with his boots, straw Stetson and salt-and-pepper beard. He had broken his right pinkie while playing high school football, and it is still a distinctive disfigurement.

He could have a short fuse, said producer David Foster, a close friend who worked with Devore on "Running Scared," but stressed that at his core he was a pussycat.

By all accounts, Devore knew the back roads, having been a truck driver years ago. Indeed, his screenwriting career took off with a 1981 film called "Back Roads," which starred Sally Field and Tommy Lee Jones. Devore named his company Back Roads Productions.

"I guess as a truck driver he saw a lot of things happen," Foster said. "That's how he became a writer. He saw a lot of weird things as a truck driver."

Friends said they couldn't imagine him ever telling his wife he would be home in three hours and then going off somewhere else.

The security camera in Flagstaff caught his image about 7 p.m. Friday as he bought some food.

At 10:20 p.m., Devore stopped for gas at the High Sierra Oasis station in Fenner, Calif., west of Needles, authorities said. The surveillance camera there was not operating.

Around 12:40 a.m. June 28, Oates-Devore said, she received a call from her husband saying he was "tired" but coming straight

home. He said he had "broken the back of the script," meaning that he had achieved a breakthrough. "I may come home and go straight into my office and write for a few hours," she recalled him saying.

Oates-Devore also said her husband phoned her again about 1:15 a.m., but the cellular company has not yet provided a billing containing proof of such a call.

Byrne of the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department said he has no knowledge of that call, but added: "There is no indication that the wife is not being truthful."

Oates-Devore said she made her husband promise that he would pull over to the side of the road if he got tired. When he didn't arrive by 9 a.m., she called the California Highway Patrol and, that night, the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department.

"By that time," she said, "he had been missing long enough for seven cars to be chopped up in Mexico."

Devore's father has a theory that his son went to Panama, where his latest screenplay was to be filmed. But producer Rosenbush dismissed that hypothesis.

**W**hen you do that kind of trip, the consul general of Panama would take you everywhere you want to go," Rosenbush said. Besides, he added, they had already been in touch with people there to make the film.

Meanwhile, Devore's wife is keeping up her vigil. She has taken to the skies in a helicopter and fixed-wing plane over the broad expanse of desert, searching. Bloodhounds have been used. Flyers have been handed out as far away as Tijuana, where some stuntmen checked on whether the car had shown up.

"The posters are on all those major roads" in the desert, said Richman, Devore's boyhood pal. "And up there, offering a \$100,000 reward, that's an awful lot of money."

At one point, the family contacted a psychic, Karen Prisant of Long Beach, who took part in the search. Prisant said that she thinks Devore is still alive but that he may be in a coma. "I feel he fell into trouble on Highway 58," she said. "I don't feel he is in that area now. . . . I feel his vibration for a split second on [Highway] 14 and then it is gone."

Special correspondent Judy Brennan contributed to this story.

7A-LA-208769-21

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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AUG 12 1997	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

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7A-LA-208769-22

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WALTER CAPPS  
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WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0522  
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(805) 730-1710

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SANTA MARIA, CA 93454  
(805) 349-9313

# Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-0522

July 8, 1997

Special Agent [redacted]  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
1332 Ariacapa Street, Suite 201  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

b6  
b7C

Dear Special Agent [redacted]

I am writing on behalf of the family of my constituent, Mr. Gary Devore, who has contacted my office regarding his recent disappearance.

Yesterday, my staff met with the family of Mr. Devore who feel that assistance from the Federal Bureau of Investigation would be quite beneficial in their quest to find their family member and close friend. The family states that Mr. Devore has been missing since June 27, 1997 after leaving Santa Fe, New Mexico on his way home to Santa Barbara, California, his place of residence.

The family feels that since the alleged disappearance occurred near Edwards Air Force Base and was not in a clearly defined region in the California desert, that assistance from the F.B.I. would be their best hope in locating Mr. Devore.

Thank you for agreeing to meet with the family and hear their story. If I may be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact my Santa Barbara District Office at (805) 730-1710.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Walter H. Capps".  
Walter H. Capps  
Member of Congress

WHC:mas

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0522

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Warren H. Capos  
M.C.

# Without a Trace



SPENCER WEINER / Los Angeles Times

Wendy Oates-Devore, wife of Gary Devore:

**■ People:** It's been a year since screenwriter Gary Devore disappeared, and friends, family and police are no closer to discovering what became of him.

By ROBERT W. WELKOS  
TIMES STAFF WRITER

**S**omewhere, during his drive home, perhaps along a stretch of highway in the Mojave Desert known for bikers, methamphetamine labs, chop shops, and mine shafts too numerous to count, screenwriter Gary Devore's voice drifted over a cellular phone in the wee hours of June 28, 1997.

"Was that you trying to call me, sweetie?" Devore asked his wife, Wendy Oates-Devore, who was waiting for him at their beachfront home in Carpinteria.

"Who else would it be at 1 o'clock in the morning?" she asked. "Where are

(ace Below)

you?"

"I'm past Barstow," he replied, giving no hint to his exact location. He was not tired, he told her, even though she knew he had been driving straight through from Santa Fe, N.M. If he got tired, he assured her, he would pull off the road and get some shut-eye. Don't wait up.

"See you later," he said.

And with that, Gary Devore vanished without a trace.

The call had come in at 1:15 a.m., his wife remembered, although no billing records have ever been found to pinpoint that call. Oates-Devore said he might not have been allowed to use his own phone.

It has been a year since Devore's puzzling disappearance. In that time, family and friends have devised various scenarios as to what might have befallen the writer, whose credits included "The Dogs of War," starring Christopher Walken, and "Running Scared," with Gregory Hines and Billy Crystal.

Some believe he was carjacked and

murdered, his 1997 Eddie Bauer Edition Ford Explorer driven to Mexico. Others believe he chose to drop from sight and get his bearings, and will one day return. Or, he has amnesia and can't find his way back.

Perhaps most bizarre of all, some even entertain the belief that no less than the Central Intelligence Agency might have had a hand in his disappearance, giving him a new identity and sending him on the biggest adventure of his life.

For those left behind, it is easier to concoct scenarios than to deal with the dearth of evidence: a few phone records, a security camera's image of Devore buying gasoline in Flagstaff, Ariz., a credit card receipt at a gas station in Fenner, Calif.; a wife's recollection of final conversations.

It's like "The X-Files," they say. Maybe aliens have abducted him. How else to explain why there is no body, no vehicle, no use of a credit card. Still

Please see DEVORE, F5

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)  
LOS ANGELES TIMES, pg. F1

Date: 6-29-98

Edition:

7A-LA-208769

Title: UNKNOWN SUBJECT(S);  
GARY MARTIN DEVORE - VICTIM;  
KIDNAPING

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

Indexing:

CK

7A-LA-208769-23

DK

F9115

missing are his laptop computer containing a final screenplay, \$20,000 in camera equipment, running gear, sunglasses, a diet journal, two large boxes of horse riding equipment and a .44-caliber Colt revolver that he had taken with him for protection.

All anyone knows for sure is that his last phone call on record, placed at 12:38 a.m., came from inside a 25-mile radius near the desert communities of Mojave and Rosamond. He apparently took Highway 58 out of Barstow heading west, leading into Mojave. Logic has it that he would have taken Highway 14 south out of Mojave if he were heading home.

Yet despite an extensive air and ground search, despite help from private eyes, professional trackers, bloodhounds and psychics, and despite public appeals on "America's Most Wanted" and numerous TV news programs, the mystery of Gary Devore has only deepened with the passing calendar.

"Nothing's changed," said Sgt. Mike Burridge, a spokesman for the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department. "I think if anything is unique about this case, it's that after all the investigative time and all the media attention it received, there is nothing evidentiary-wise to point in any one direction—and that is unusual."

But things have changed, if not in the case itself, then in the lives of those who were swallowed up in Devore's disappearance and now yearn for answers.

"It makes me sick," said Adrien Gordon of Santa Fe. "He's been one of my closest friends since I was 15. . . . I talked to him once a week. I'm so tired of trying to figure it out."

"Nobody wants to admit that someone might have died," said David Thompson of Sacramento, his friend for over a quarter of a century.

"Setting aside the worst of options, there is a part of me that says he has done an Australian walk-about," Thompson said. "It's a custom among aborigines. They just disappear off into the bush. You don't know why they've gone off or for how long."

Writer-producer Julia Phillips, who authored the tell-all Hollywood book "You'll Never Eat Lunch in This Town Again," knew Devore for more than 20 years.

"He was a wonderful human being," Phillips recalled, the kind of person "you could unload any kind of poison to if you couldn't reach your shrink or didn't want to go there anymore." Now, she feels her friend is dead. "One likes to hope he's not, although if he showed up now, he'd end up dead because we'd probably kill him!"

He'd gone to New Mexico on June 1, 1997, to work on a screenplay for an RKO remake of the 1949 Robert Mitchum robbery caper "The Big Steal." The remake, which Devore was to direct, was to be set in Panama.

Producer Barry Rosenbush said Devore had already handed in 49 pages of a draft along with an overview of the story he envisioned, but the remainder of the script, contained in Devore's laptop, is missing along with the computer.

"We have a treatment he wrote, a blueprint, of 25 pages," Rosenbush said. "Then we have some 40-odd pages of a draft of the script. But with writers, they'll write lots of different drafts. It's hard to tell if that was a scratch to get it on paper or where he had gone from that." In the year that has passed, the producer added, they have had to turn to another writer to develop the script.

Devore had gone to New Mexico to see if he could work through a severe case of writer's block and had been staying at the ranch of his friend, actress Marsha Mason. Mason declined to be interviewed for this story.

On the night before he left Santa Fe for California, Devore arrived at dinner at the home of Adrien Gordon. His image still haunts her memory:

"When I opened the door and he was standing there, he was so happy to see me," Gordon recalled. "He had the biggest smile. I always

loved his face. He had a huge grin."

At 5 feet, 11 inches and 185 pounds, Devore was ruggedly handsome with a salt-and-pepper beard. He was 55, but still women adored him. He had been married four times. His wives included Maria Cole, the widow of singer Nat King Cole; Sandie Newton, now a broadcast journalist in Texas; Claudia Christian, an actress who appeared on TV's sci-fi series "Babylon 5"; and, at the time of his disappearance, Wendy Oates-Devore, a former model from Palm Beach, Fla.

"He was with probably every starlet in the world," Gordon recalled. "Gary and I were lovers—though not during his marriages—and best of friends throughout our lives. Yet there was never any jealousy. There was no ownership kind of thing."

But Gordon said her friend was a complicated human being.

"Gary had a very secretive side to him," she said. "I think he was many different people. I think he was very compartmentalized. Part of him was a redneck who liked to drink with cowboys and be with his horse. Part of him was a total womanizer. Gary also had a bad temper. . . . But he was always

sweet and lovely with me. He had rough times and depression."

In the year that has passed, he appears to her in dreams, a big, hunky, wonderful guy. "I feel so blessed I was able to see him that last night," Gordon said, mentioning the photograph of the two of them dancing at her son's bar mitzvah. "I have that," she said. "Sometimes, it's really painful to look at it."

Many of his friends say Devore seemed happy and content in the weeks leading up to his disappearance. They noted that he was going to direct the remake of "The Big Steal," a source of great pride and excitement for a screenwriter.

But Newton, his former wife, who stayed in touch with him over the years, said she had had lunch with him shortly before he went to New Mexico and detected that something was amiss.

"In all fairness, he sometimes represents himself as being OK—he's a dramatist," she said. "He may have said to other people, 'I'm fabulous, I'm great,' but he had a long history of doubting himself."

Thompson agreed. "Depression would be a part of his makeup," he said. "He used to get writer's block and it would just kill him. He'd just feel this one tool, which was his big tool, was not in his grasp anymore and it wasn't going to come back. . . . He would berate himself for having lost it."

In one of his final conversations, he told his current wife, Oates-Devore, that he had "broken the back" of the screenplay he was working on, which she took to mean he had achieved a breakthrough.

Meanwhile, others point out that if Devore did choose to drop from sight, it came only months after his mother's death from cancer. He had been very close to her, they noted, and would never have vanished had she still been alive. Perhaps this was an opportunity to disappear without worrying his mother, they said.

The passing year has been hard for his wife. Not only was she racked by anxiety and pain, but his disappearance taught her to look at life differently. "You can never be certain of anything," she said.

For a brief time, she believed authorities suspected her in De-



Courtesy of Wendy Oates-Devore

Gary Devore shortly before his disappearance one year ago.

vore's disappearance. Santa Barbara sheriff's detectives had asked her to take a lie-detector test, but she became ill and the test was never completed. But Burridge said that the test was routine and that she was never a suspect.

Oates-Devore, who met her husband while they were having their hair cut at Cristophe's in Beverly Hills, has gone on television shows to discuss her husband's disappearance, without success.

"The only tips we got were from people from the panhandle of Florida, the same people who see flying saucers land in their yards," she said. "We got a call from one person who said, 'He's living next door and here's his picture.' He was a potbellied, bald-headed guy. What do they think? I have less hope than I ever did."

Oates-Devore also has had to grapple with the financial consequences of her husband's disappearance. Under California law, a person cannot be declared dead for five years. In the meantime, she has gone to court seeking permission to pay his bills.

"You have to preserve his assets," Oates-Devore said. "I may sign his name for things, but I don't decide what bills are to be paid, the court does. It's not like his wife becomes conservator and, therefore, can get her hands on everything."

In recent months, Oates-Devore has tried to pick up the threads of her life. An actress who bears a resemblance to Cher, she recently auditioned on "Baywatch" and has been out on three movie-of-the-week auditions. "I've had callbacks," she said. "It will happen."

"This has been such a horrible personal experience," she added. "It's not just that I lost the one I loved, but the behavior of people."

She recalled sitting inside a Starbucks one day when someone told her that Devore had been miserable in his marriage.

"Why this person chose to say that to me at this time, I don't know," Oates-Devore said. "You know what I said to him? 'Maybe you're right. I know I was really happy.'"

But while Devore's disappearance has caused people to bond as well as pull away, they all remain mystified by what might have befallen him.

Some of Devore's acquaintances even entertain the thought that there may have been a CIA connection behind his disappearance.

In the weeks before he vanished, Devore had been calling a longtime friend at the CIA in Langley, Va., asking him questions about the U.S. invasion of Panama, former Panamanian strongman Manuel Noriega and about Noriega's involvement in drugs and money-laundering. Devore was basing his action-adventure screenplay on that invasion and wanted to know as much about it as possible for creative purposes.

"I remember talking to him about a lot of elements of Panama and Noriega's regime and the drug money that Noriega was alleged to have had stashed in safes in his offices and that's the money that, in [Devore's] script, soldiers stumble across and steal," said Chase Brandon, who works in public affairs at CIA headquarters.

"From that, we sort of drifted off and sort of talked about U.S. counter-narcotics programs in general," Brandon added. "I may have mentioned a couple things about the agency's role in providing increased U.S. intelligence efforts to provide support to U.S. law en-

forcement."

A 26-year veteran operations officer who has "experiences all over Latin America" for the CIA, Brandon said Devore asked if he would like to become a consultant on the movie if it was ever made. "I was considering doing that," Brandon said.

In a day-planner he left behind, Devore had written down Brandon's name and phone number frequently in the final weeks before he disappeared. Included was an entry on May 6, 1997, that read:

"Undersecretary for int'l narcotics makers. Chase [the name is crossed out]. Crime and narcotics center. CNC. Largest center in CIA. Espionage agents work with local police, gov't, etc. Do cover work on problems locals won't handle. Airfields, burn labs, fuel storage."

Brandon scoffed at suggestions that Devore was ever a CIA operative or that he may have dropped from sight to go on a mission for the agency.

"I will tell you with no uncertain terms, that is not the case," Brandon said. ". . . A lot of people would like to do this work and a lot of people in Hollywood say they do this work, in fact. But Gary was probably not either one of those."

Brandon, a cousin of actor Tommy Lee Jones, met Devore more than 15 years ago when he and the screenwriter were best men at Jones' wedding. One of Devore's first successes was the 1981 film "Back Roads," starring Jones.

"Gary was very happy," Brandon said. "He had reached a point where he was about to direct a movie. He was excited about that. The guy had the world by the coattails."

"His disappearance and probable death is just a horrible, horrible thing to come to terms with," Brandon said. "But I think, in my own sense of what logically happened to Gary, is that he was driving this new high-profile, flashy Ford Explorer with all the package options on it and that is a vehicle that law enforcement people will tell you is a highly sought-after car for carjackers. . . . My sense was Gary was one of those people who met a horrible, tragic quirk of fate. He was simply victimized by people who wanted that car."

Some of Devore's friends wrestle with whether to hold a memorial service.

"I'll probably have a memorial every year on the anniversary of his disappearance," Phillips said. "My father died three years ago. I talk to my father. . . . If a dead person is important to me, I carry them with me. I know it's a very retro attitude."

Others just try and find closure. "I think about it every day," said producer Rosenbush. "I wish I knew what happened to him. It's like one of those emotional ghosts that I'll carry with me forever."

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE

Date: 06/25/1998

To: Los Angeles

b6  
b7C

From: SA [redacted]

Ventura RA

Contact: SA [redacted] - (805) 642-3995

Approved By: [redacted]

Drafted By: [redacted] mam

Case ID #: 7A-LA-208769 (Pending)

Title: UNKNOWN SUBJECT(S);  
GARY MARTIN DEVORE - VICTIM;  
KIDNAPING

Synopsis: Information regarding meeting with the Santa Barbara Sheriff's Department.

Details: On 4/24/98, this writer met with Sergeant [redacted] and Detective [redacted] Santa Barbara Sheriff's Department (SBSD), Santa Barbara, California, regarding captioned matter. Sgt. [redacted] advised that the missing person investigation of Gary Martin Devore is still an active investigation at the SBSD. However, most leads have been exhausted and at this time, the reason for Devore's disappearance is unknown. Other than Devore's disappearance, there is no evidence that Devore was abducted or kidnaped for ransom.

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b7C

♦♦

ADK

7A-LA-208769-24

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Indicate page, name of  
newspaper, city and state.  
LOS ANGELES TIMES, pg. A1

Date 7-9-78  
Edition

7A-LA-208769

Title GARY MARTIN DEVORE

Character  
or  
Classification  
Submitting Office Los Angeles

Indexing: VENTURA 7+

## Missing Writer's Body Believed Found

**■ Mystery:** Amateur sleuth's tip leads to discovery of Gary Devore's vehicle in aqueduct near Palmdale.

By DARRELL SATZMAN and SCOTT GLOVER  
SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

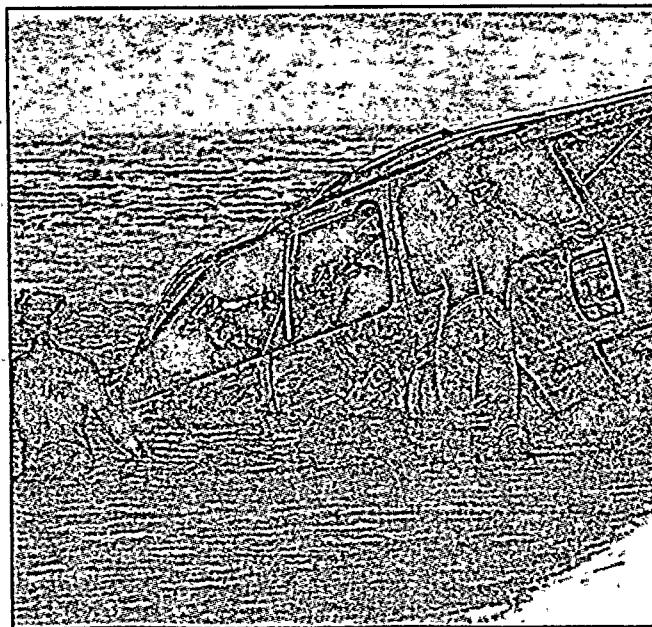
A puzzle that has haunted Hollywood for more than a year, the disappearance of screenwriter Gary Devore, was apparently solved Wednesday when an armchair detective, saying he was guided only by a newspaper account of the mystery, led investigators to Devore's vehicle submerged in an aqueduct near Palmdale, with a body still at the wheel.

Divers found a partially decomposed body dressed in blue jeans, a Western-style shirt and cowboy boots. They match the clothes worn by Devore when he disappeared, but final confirmation of the identity was pending.

Detectives said they believe Devore died in an accident but have not ruled out foul play.

Investigators were led to the spot in the California Aqueduct by Douglas Crawford, a San Diego man who said his interest was

Please see DEVORE, A20



IRFAN KHAN / Los Angeles Times

Devore's vehicle is pulled from California Aqueduct near Palmdale after debris matching it was found nearby.

JDK

7A-LA-208769-25

Continued from A1  
aroused by a newspaper story marking the one-year anniversary of Devore's disappearance. He retraced Devore's last known route, he said, until he came across evidence of a car wreck beside the aqueduct, and e-mailed his discovery Sunday to Devore's publicist, setting off Wednesday's underwater search.

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department divers found the white Ford Explorer that Devore was driving when he vanished en route to his home in Santa Barbara County from a screenwriting job in Santa Fe, N.M., on June 28, 1997. Crawford is not considered a suspect but simply provided a badly needed break in the case, said Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department Sgt. Mike Burridge.

"Our detectives met with him and they had no reason to doubt what he said," Burridge said. "It seems like he did a good job of putting the facts together."

Crawford said that when he read about Devore's disappearance, it struck him as remarkably similar to the story of an Orange County woman who vanished on a trip to Montana some years ago and was later found to have crashed into the California Aqueduct.

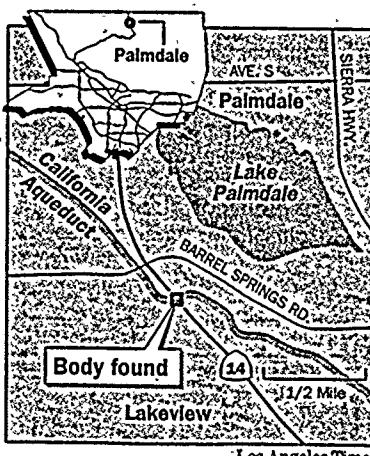
Devore had stopped for gas in Fenner, Calif., about 10:15 p.m. on June 27, 1997, and spoke with his wife by cellular telephone outside of Barstow about 1:15 a.m. the next morning.

"From this, I deduced that he was traveling in the direction of home, and he had traveled approximately 110 miles since refueling," Crawford said in the e-mail, which was forwarded to investigators with the Santa Barbara County and Los Angeles County sheriff's departments.

Crawford said that during his



Gary Devore was traveling through desert to his home when he vanished last year.



Los Angeles Times

July 3 trip, he stopped at the spot where the Antelope Valley Freeway crosses the aqueduct. There, he found debris matching Devore's Ford Explorer.

In response to Crawford's mes-

sage, Santa Barbara County sheriff's detectives began their search of the area Tuesday.

Inside Devore's Explorer, detectives on Wednesday found a 35-millimeter camera and a pottery vase, which they believe Devore may have purchased while staying at actress Marsha Mason's New Mexico ranch.

Investigators said they expect to identify the body through dental records.

"We know that Mr. Devore was last traveling southbound on the [Antelope Valley Freeway]. It looks like someone could have come off . . . and landed in the aqueduct," Burridge said. "I don't want to speculate. But if anything, he may have been tired. He was traveling straight through from Santa Fe and it was early in the morning."

Devore, 55, who had screen credits for the films "The Dogs of War" and "Running Scared," had a directing job when he disappeared.

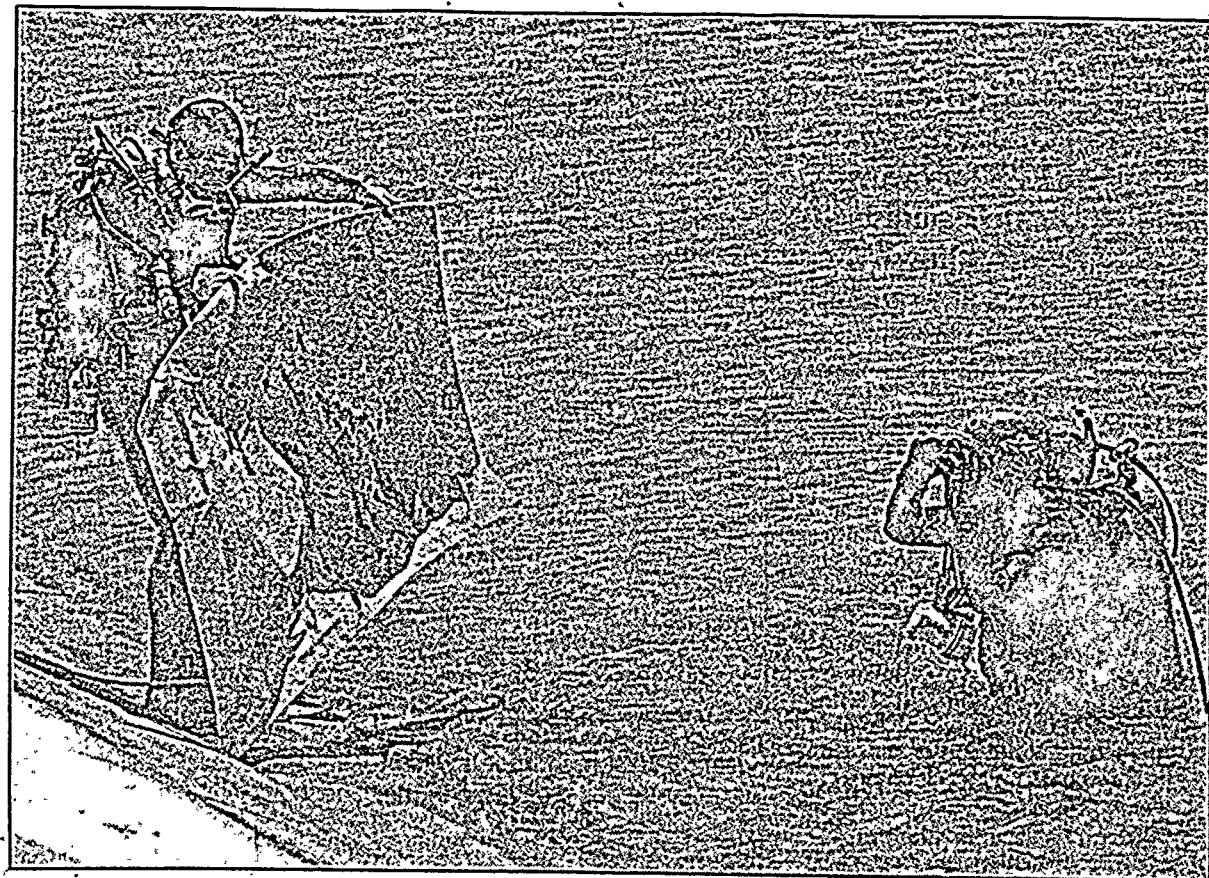
Wendy Oates-Devore, his wife, said the last conversation she had with her husband began: "Was that you trying to call me, sweetie?" Devore had called by cellular phone as he drove through the High Desert toward the couple's beachfront Carpinteria home.

"Who else would it be at 1 o'clock in the morning?" she answered.

Devore had just passed Barstow, and told his wife not to wait up.

On Wednesday, a grieving Oates-Devore said, "I assume that it's him. If it is, at least we have found him now. That's a very big relief."

Oates-Devore said that she also felt vindicated after having been asked by detectives to take a lie detector test. She believes she had



IRFAN KHAN / Los Angeles Times

been viewed with some suspicion.

Burridge credited Crawford with helping solve a mystery that had baffled law enforcement for more than a year, and did not question his motives.

"I don't think it's odd at all," Burridge said. "He was coming up here anyway to visit some friends and he thought he'd stop by and check it out. He came down here and he found [some debris from the crash], and he thought, 'Hey, I may be onto something.'"

Crawford declined to discuss the case, saying he had agreed to an exclusive paid interview with the television program "Extra."

"I didn't know the guy, that's all I'll say," Crawford said.

He refused to state his age or his occupation.

Devore's disappearance had spurred several theories from family and friends about what became of the handsome, rough-around-the-edges screenwriter.

Some believed he was carjacked and killed for his 1997 Eddie Bauer Edition Ford Explorer. Others believed he decided to drop out of sight for a while, and would one day return.

The most farfetched of the theories was that Devore had been recruited for a secret mission with the Central Intelligence Agency—based on several conversations he had with a friend who works in public affairs at CIA headquarters

in Langley, Va.

Authorities conducted intensive ground and air searches shortly after his disappearance. But even features on "America's Most Wanted" and other television shows brought forth few clues.

Michael Sands, the publicist who passed Crawford's e-mail tip to investigators, said he was saddened to learn of his friend's death. At the same time, he said, he felt some relief.

"We're not in limbo anymore," Sands said while watching the recovery operation. "I mean, think of how many people never get to find their loved one."

Times staff writer Robert W. Welkos contributed to this story.

AIRTEL

DATE 11/20/98

## KIDNAPING OFFENSE REPORT

## ATTENTION:

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION,  
VIOLENT CRIMES UNIT

To: Director, FBI

From: *TPW/ADIC* LOS ANGELES (7A-LA-208769) (VRA)

Subject: UNKNOWN SUBJECT(S)

GARY MARTIN DEVORE - VICTIM

KIDNAPPING

Kidnap Date: 6/28/97

Incident Time: 1:00 a.m.

Location: Palmdale, California

Initial: Supplemental: Closing:  Runaway Hoax No Abduction Prosecution Other

(specify: home, school, office, etc.)

Date reported to your office:

## Primary Motive (select one):

Ransom  
 Narcotics  
 Infant/Child Replacement  
 Domestic (spouse/paramour, etc.)  
 Furtherance of Escape

Robbery  
 Sexual Assault  
 Unknown  
 Other

Ransom Demand:  Yes  NoPaid:  Yes  No

Amount Paid:

Amount Recovered:

NCIC entry:  FBI  PoliceVICAP Report: (FD-676) Submitted:  Yes  NoSolution by:  FBI  Police  Joint

## VICTIM(S)

## 1. DEVORE

## GARY

## MARTIN

(Last Name)

(First Name)

(Middle Name)

Race: White

Sex: Male

DOB: 9/17/41

Taken Interstate: Sexual Assault: Injured: Killed: Located: 

## 2.

(Last Name)

(First Name)

(Middle Name)

Race:

Sex:

DOB:

Taken Interstate: Sexual Assault: Injured: Killed: Located: 

## 3.

(Last Name)

(First Name)

(Middle Name)

Race:

Sex:

DOB:

Taken Interstate: Sexual Assault: Injured: Killed: Located: 

## SUBJECT(S)

NOTE: If subject's name is unknown, enter as UNSUB with descriptive data available for each subject.

## 1. N/A

(Last Name)

(First Name)

(Middle Name)

Race:

Sex:

DOB:

Prosecution:  Federal  State

## 2.

(Last Name)

(First Name)

(Middle Name)

Race:

Sex:

DOB:

Prosecution:  Federal  State

## 3.

(Last Name)

(First Name)

(Middle Name)

Race:

Sex:

DOB:

Prosecution:  Federal  State

FBI/DOJ

7A-LA-208769-260

LDR

7A-LA-208769

**Synopsis:**

On 6/28/97, Gary Martin Devore became a missing person while returning to his Carpinteria, California home from New Mexico. Subsequent investigation uncovered no evidence of a kidnaping.

On 7/8/98, Devore was found in his submerged vehicle in the California Aqueduct which ran below Highway 14 near Palmdale, California. Devore's death and disappearance was the apparent result of a vehicle accident.

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE

Date: 07/21/1998

To: Criminal Investigative

From: Los Angeles

Ventura RA

Contact: SA [redacted]

- (805) 642-3995

Approved By: [redacted]

b6  
b7C

Drafted By: [redacted] :mam

Case ID #: 7A-LA-208769 (Closed) *✓*

*(K)*

Title: UNSUB(S);  
GARY MARTIN DEVORE - VICTIM  
KIDNAPING

Synopsis: Communication closing case file.

Details: On 6/28/97, Gary Martin Devore became a missing person while traveling from New Mexico to his home in Carpinteria, California. On 7/8/98, Devore's body was found in the vehicle, in which he was traveling, submerged in the California Aqueduct which ran under Highway 14 near Palmdale, California. Subsequent investigation by the Santa Barbara Sheriff's Department, and Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, has indicated that Devore's death and disappearance was the result of a vehicle accident.

As no further investigation remains for this case file, it is recommended that it be closed.

♦♦

*CLOSED  
7/21/98  
(6)  
7/21/98*

7A-LA-208769-27